



# Virginia Coastal Zone MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

## Coastal Policy Team Meeting Notes Wednesday, January 18, 2017 10am-3:00pm

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

### **FY 2017 Annual Grant Application (McKay)**

- Draft application due to NOAA ~ Friday Mar 17; Final due to DEQ Fiscal Monday May 1 and to Grants.gov Friday May 5
- Proposed schedule for continuing grant proposals:
  - Section **306** proposals due to CZM Friday Feb 10
  - Section **309** proposals due to CZM Friday Feb 24
- New focal area / Draft Request for Proposals
  - Email RFP by Wednesday, Jan 25
  - Proposals due Friday Mar 24
  - Scoring packages emailed to CPT Wednesday Mar 29
  - Scores due Friday Apr 7

VA CZM staff may not know actual budget until May but have been advised to develop proposals based on level funding. If cuts are needed, CPT agreed that competitive grant funding would be cut first. There may be more flexibility in the grant application timing. VA CZM will know after Program Manager's meeting March 1-2.

### **Focal Area Request For Competitive Grant Proposals**

- Coastal Policy Team (CPT) members will score all proposals except their own. The scale will be a 25 point scale with each of the 5 categories worth a maximum of 5 points.
- Applicants should not duplicate any current 309 strategies, but can instead support or enhance a 309 strategy.
- Collaboration will be very important during proposal preparation and implementation. The wording in the "Relevance to the RFP priorities" category was changed to "To what extent does the project propose collaboration among agencies and/or PDCs?"
- Proposals need to be discrete projects with clear outcomes; proposals should not reflect a request for a relatively small part of a larger project; 306A projects need to be submitted separately but should refer to a larger related 306 project if appropriate due to the need for additional documentation and approval procedures for 306A.
- A third bullet was added to the topic of Resolving Near-Shore Use Conflicts – "Research and/or incentives to encourage aquaculture further offshore to reduce shallow water use conflicts." VMRC would like to encourage offshore aquaculture as a way to allow the industry to expand without increasing near-shore use conflicts.

- In response to a request to clarify the term “natural and nature-based features” referenced in the RFP section on resiliency, it could entail the management, preservation, restoration, or monitoring of living shorelines (including hybrid approaches that use rock sills) as well as wetlands, dunes, beaches, etc. that can help provide natural resiliency to climate change.

### **309 Grants**

*Coastal Hazards* – Download PDF of update on Coastal Hazards Strategy at

[http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/CoastalZoneManagement/Jan\\_18\\_2017\\_CPT\\_Meeting\\_Pres\\_Coastal\\_Hazards\\_Strategy.pdf](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/CoastalZoneManagement/Jan_18_2017_CPT_Meeting_Pres_Coastal_Hazards_Strategy.pdf).

Year 1:

- Data for local Comprehensive Coastal Resource Management Portals (CCRMPs) - VIMS
- Living shoreline and shoreline management training for localities and contractors - VIMS
- Pilot Project: Integrating Hazards Planning and local comprehensive planning - HRPDC

Year 2:

- Initial Coastal Resilience Atlas Analysis and Data Development -VIMS
- Data for local CCRMPs – VIMS
- Locality hazards vulnerability assessment methodology / data needs assessment
- Cost-benefit analysis of participation in the Community Rating System (CRS) under the national Flood Insurance Program

Community Rating System (CRS) regional coordinators will be important for rural communities that lack staff capacity to complete all of the activities needed for the CRS program.

*Leveraging the Economic Benefits of Land Conservation in the Lower Chickahominy Watershed* –

Download PDF of update on Economics of Land Conservation at

[http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/CoastalZoneManagement/Jan\\_18\\_2017\\_CPT\\_Meeting\\_Pres\\_309\\_CSI\\_Land\\_Cons.pdf](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/CoastalZoneManagement/Jan_18_2017_CPT_Meeting_Pres_309_CSI_Land_Cons.pdf).

Year 1: Data collection by DCR-NH and DGIF – Historical data will be verified and DGIF will carry out herpetological surveys on Wildlife Management Areas in the watershed.

Base Mapping by RRPDC and HRPDC –existing conditions in the watershed will be mapped.

RFP Development and contractor selection for economic study – will use stakeholder input to create RFP.

Year 2: Economic Study – Modeled off of an economic study from the Eastern Shore

*Working Waterfronts (WWF)*

A 5 year strategy was just completed which produced the Virginia WWF Plan. Plan has been adopted by three of the original participating working waterfront regions – ANPDC, NNPDC, MPPDC. HRPDC will be considering adoption after a presentation by staff this week. Senate Joint Resolution No. 281 is being considered by the GA- requesting that the EDA study the long term viability of WWF as is Senate Bill No. 1203 – to incentivize land purchase for WWF activity. This bill would give localities the ability to establish economic development zones for working waterfront activity.

The FY 16 project led by MPPDC is focused on creation of an uninsured watermen program and/or self insurance pool to address risk of working with uninsured watermen or provide a path of insurance for watermen and marinas. This project will also expand the WWF inventory to include GWRC, RRPDC, and NVRC. In FY 17 – The WWF regions are meeting Jan 23 to discuss details for this project. Strategy milestones include presenting the WWF plan to the General Assembly for adoption and development of model zoning language and coastal living policies for local consideration.

#### *Ocean Planning*

Download PDF of update on Ocean Planning and Marine Debris at

[http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/CoastalZoneManagement/Jan\\_18\\_2017\\_CPT\\_Meeting\\_Pres\\_309\\_Ocean\\_Planning\\_and\\_Marine\\_Debris.pdf](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/CoastalZoneManagement/Jan_18_2017_CPT_Meeting_Pres_309_Ocean_Planning_and_Marine_Debris.pdf).

The Mid-Atlantic Ocean Action Plan (OAP) was certified by the National Ocean Council in December 2016. MARCO has funding to continue Portal maintenance through 2017. Virginia (CZM Manager) is now serving as Marco Chair through June 2017 and RPB State Co-lead through December 2018. Virginia is the lead or co-lead on 4 of the 5 actions related to the OAP's healthy ocean ecosystem goal.

#### *Marine Debris*

Balloon Release Reduction Campaign: Pre-campaign research conducted by Virginia CZM, Clean Virginia Waterways and partners – and funded by grants from the NOAA Marine Debris Program and CZM – identified a number of target audiences for social marketing strategies to reduce helium balloon releases and debris at both celebratory and memorial events. The first targets are weddings and college and university graduations. The wedding strategy will focus on selling alternative litter-free send-off activities. Images and messages are being tested at two bridal shows Jan 22 and Feb 26 in Hampton Roads. Magnets and a champagne bottle of bubbles are being distributed during the wedding shows, the campaign strategy will include ads in bridal magazines that drive traffic to a campaign website – [joyfulsendoff.info](http://joyfulsendoff.info). Feedback from brides will be used to tweak multi-media materials and launch a pilot strategy in the Hampton Roads area in March and April. The plan is to expand the campaign throughout coastal Virginia.

#### **FY 15 Reprogramming**

About \$50K may be available if not required for a pending land acquisition project – we should know by sometime in March 2017.

#### **Real Property Status Reports**

Grantees were notified that these reports will be required.

#### **Narrative Policies**

Download PDF of update on Narrative Policies Development at

[http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/CoastalZoneManagement/Jan\\_18\\_2017\\_CPT\\_Meeting\\_Pres\\_Narrative\\_Policies\\_Update.pdf](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/CoastalZoneManagement/Jan_18_2017_CPT_Meeting_Pres_Narrative_Policies_Update.pdf).

The Virginia CZM Program's current narrative policy categories were reviewed and an update was provided on progress under the current grant to the William and Mary Coastal Policy Center, which is

scheduled to end March 31, 2017. A series of meetings have been held to develop narrative policies for the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, including the addition of a policy covering state listed threatened and endangered species of animals. The Department of Agriculture and consumer services may be interested in also including state listed plants and insects, and both agencies are considering the value of a policy covering invasive species.

A schedule for future grants was reviewed. The proposal is to provide an FY 15 grant to develop policies for fisheries, dunes/beaches, subaqueous lands, and tidal/nontidal wetlands. A scope of work for this grant is being developed, and the project can run through September 30, 2017. The final grant, FY 17, would cover all water quality and air quality programs and could begin on October 1, 2017.

### **Ocean Management**

Download PDF of update on Ocean Management at

[http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/CoastalZoneManagement/Jan\\_18\\_2017\\_CPT\\_Meeting\\_Pres\\_Mid-Atlantic\\_Ocean\\_Plan\\_Update.pdf](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/CoastalZoneManagement/Jan_18_2017_CPT_Meeting_Pres_Mid-Atlantic_Ocean_Plan_Update.pdf).

### **Advisory Policies for Areas of Particular Concern**

*Use of Advisory Policies in Federal Consistency Review:*

Download PDF of update on Use of Advisory Policies in Federal Consistency Review

[http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/CoastalZoneManagement/Jan\\_18\\_2017\\_CPT\\_Meeting\\_Pres\\_Advisory\\_Policies.pdf](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/CoastalZoneManagement/Jan_18_2017_CPT_Meeting_Pres_Advisory_Policies.pdf)

An overview of the Virginia CZM Program's advisory policies was provided. The DEQ Office of Environmental Impact Review cannot object to a project because of the advisory policies, but project proponents must consider them. Presentations (below) were given on several of the advisory policies.

*Virginia Outdoors Plan:*

Download PDF of update on Virginia Outdoors Plan

[http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/CoastalZoneManagement/Jan\\_18\\_2017\\_CPT\\_Meeting\\_Pres\\_Virginia\\_Outdoors\\_Interface.pdf](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/CoastalZoneManagement/Jan_18_2017_CPT_Meeting_Pres_Virginia_Outdoors_Interface.pdf)

Virginia does not have a water access study regarding economic impacts, but would like to have one. Water Trails could be included in a Focal area competitive grant under the topic of Preserving the Rural Landscape and Economy. VA CZM needs to update the Seaside Water Trail map.

*Natural Heritage:*

Download PDF of update on Natural Heritage at

[http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/CoastalZoneManagement/Jan\\_18\\_2017\\_CPT\\_Meeting\\_Pres\\_Coastal\\_Advisory\\_Policies.pdf](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/CoastalZoneManagement/Jan_18_2017_CPT_Meeting_Pres_Coastal_Advisory_Policies.pdf)

Of the four Sea Level Fens on the Eastern Shore – upland and estuarine community mixed - two will be eliminated by a 1 ½ foot sea level rise, the other two will have negative effects from sea level rise. It is important to get state listed threatened and endangered species policies incorporated into the Virginia CZM Program so that they can be better protected from any adverse federal activities.

### *Sand and Gravel Resources:*

Download PDF of update on Sand and Gravel Resources at

[http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/CoastalZoneManagement/Jan\\_18\\_2017\\_CPT\\_Meeting\\_Pres\\_DMME.pdf](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/CoastalZoneManagement/Jan_18_2017_CPT_Meeting_Pres_DMME.pdf)

DMME regulates mining and state geology resources onshore and offshore. There are many permitted sand and gravel operations in the Coastal Plain; some clay resources and some heavy mineral sand deposits. Some are commercial, but some are also used by coastal mitigation projects. DMME currently has management agreements with DEQ, DCR, VMRC and Federal agencies (e.g. Army Corps of Engineers) related to management of sand and gravel resources. The BOEM, VIMS, DMME Assessment of Offshore Sand and Heavy Minerals project is based on the economics of moving sand from offshore to onshore beaches. DMME is doing a resource assessment based on cores from the sites and core data from the Wind Energy Area. Sand resource maps are also being developed for inclusion in the MARCO portal although it is proving difficult to combine state and federal sand data into a seamless map layer. DMME was asked whether it has considered borrow pits on the land as recreation areas after they are no longer used for mining. It's a possibility, but since most of them are privately owned, the state would have to work with the landowners. DCR may want to think about incentivizing the use of these borrow pits for private landowners.

It was noted that the Mid-Atlantic Regional Planning Body could work with DMME and VIMS regarding sand issues.

### *Historic Resources:*

*(No PowerPoint used for this presentation)*

DHR conducts about 4,000 reviews of historic properties each year. Sea level rise and storm surge is a threat to historic sites. DHR monitors sites year to year to see how environmental impacts are affecting those sites. DHR is using sea level rise threat to prioritize study areas. Resiliency and disaster preparedness is important to DHR. After Superstorm Sandy, \$47 million dollars were earmarked for related recovery – \$1.5 million dollars for Virginia for brick and mortar restoration. A study is planned on an inundated area of Tangier Island. There are shoreline archeological studies on the Eastern Shore which discovered 34 sites that had been eroded away and 41 new archeological sites were discovered because of eroded sands. Localities on the Middle Peninsula and Northern Neck are also conducting archaeological and architectural studies. The localities will be able to develop preparedness plans based on these surveys. A Yorktown Shipwreck National Marine Sanctuary has been proposed and DHR is working with VMRC on the underwater recovery permits. DHR discussed with VA CZM about casting cultural resource management under the Building Natural and Community Resiliency Focal Area category regarding the loss of historic resources.

### **Shoreline BMPs to Protect and Maximize Bird Habitat –**

Download PDF of update on Shoreline BMPs to Protect and Maximize Bird Habitat at

[http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/CoastalZoneManagement/Jan\\_18\\_2017\\_CPT\\_Meeting\\_Pres\\_Shorebird\\_BMPs.pdf](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/CoastalZoneManagement/Jan_18_2017_CPT_Meeting_Pres_Shorebird_BMPs.pdf)

Ruth Boettcher is co-leading a committee to address the impacts of coastal development and shoreline engineering on shorebirds. They hope to determine effective ways to deliver information on bird-

friendly BMPs to coastal authorities to enhance the likelihood of their being implemented. Presentations such as today's to state CZM programs, State Fish and Wildlife agencies, Army Corps, etc. are one of their strategies. Monitoring of BMPs is needed to determine their effectiveness. Not all of the BMPs have been fully developed yet, but should be in the next two years (need to do additional work on BMPs for shorebird stopover sites and wintering areas).

#### **Update on Commonwealth Center for Recurrent Flooding Resiliency (CCRFR) –**

Download PDF of update on Update on Commonwealth Center for Recurrent Flooding Resiliency at [http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/CoastalZoneManagement/Jan\\_18\\_2017\\_CPT\\_Meeting\\_Pres\\_CCRFR\\_Update.pdf](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/CoastalZoneManagement/Jan_18_2017_CPT_Meeting_Pres_CCRFR_Update.pdf)

Elizabeth Andrews, from the Coastal Policy Center at William and Mary, and Emily Steinhilber, from Old Dominion University, provided an overview of the CCRFR and answered questions from the Coastal Policy Team. They noted that the Center was created in 2016 by the Virginia General Assembly, and that it serves all of Virginia. They described current and planned projects, including the Adapt Virginia data portal, which will be hosted by VIMS and is scheduled to go live in February. Marcia Berman from VIMS can provide more information on the portal.

In response to several questions about funding and assistance available through the Center, the speakers stated that the Center is now accepting project proposals for FY 2017 with final funding determinations by July 1 and that the amount of money CCRFR will get each year will fluctuate. They noted that CCRFR will provide technical assistance to localities based on the proposals received and approved.

#### **Other Partner Updates -**

- House Bill 1686 passed – it permits the Pamunkey tribe to become a PDC member and negotiate the terms of the membership; the Pamunkey tribe could potentially be a CZM grant recipient.
- The CPT was reminded to please complete the Conservation Planning Tools survey for Coastal VEVA and forward the survey to others.

#### **Attendees**

Shannon Alexander – A-NPDC

Elizabeth Andrews – Wm & Mary CPC

Eric Aschenbach – VDH

April Bahen – VA CZM

John Bateman – NNPDC

Sharon Baxter – DEQ

Marcia Berman - VIMS

Mark Bittner – Crater PDC

Ruth Boettcher – DGIF

Jason Bulluck – DCR

Ben McFarlane – HRPDC

Laura McKay – VA CZM

Nick Meade – VA CZM

Corey Miles – NVRC

Shep Moon – VA CZM

Mike Murphy – DEQ

Chip Neikirk – VMRC

Matt Poirot – DOF

Beth Polak – VA CZM

Meghann Quinn – DEQ P2

Dave Davis – DEQ Water  
Ray Fernald – DGIF  
John Fisher – DEQ EIR  
Lewis Gillingham – VMRC  
Becky Gwynn – DGIF  
Scott Hardaway – VIMS  
Todd Janeski - VCU  
Kerry Kehoe – NOAA  
Roger Kirchen – DHR  
John Kuriawa - NOAA  
Terry Lasher – DOF  
William Lassetter – DMME  
Lewie Lawrence – MPPDC  
Janit Lewellyn Allen – DCR

Dan Salkovitz – DEQ Air  
Shaina Schaffer – GWRC  
David Spears - DMME  
Emily Steinhilber – ODU  
Sarah Stewart - RRPDC  
Bettina Sullivan – DEQ EIR  
Lyle Varnell - VIMS  
Tim Ware – GWRC  
Joe Weber – DCR-NH  
Jim Wesson - VMRC  
Virginia Witmer – VA CZM