



# *Accomack-Northampton Coastal Resources Technical Assistance Program*

## **5 Annual Report**



Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program

Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission

NOAA Grant: NA17NOS4190152

Grant Year 2017 Task 41

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# **Fiscal Year 2017 Technical Assistance Annual Report**

*October, 2018*

*Prepared For:*

**Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program**

Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

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*On the cover – Photograph taken by Shannon Alexander of the A-NPDC during the Eastern Shore Natives Campaign garden tour from the Willis Wharf observation platform. Willis Wharf is an active working waterfront area, public water access facility (with floating dock constructed by the A-NPDC with VCZMP funding), and the location for new interpretive panels (also a VCZMP project).*



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## Introduction

The Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission (A-NPDC) was formed in 1970 to provide planning and housing services on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. A-NPDC is a regional commission consisting of Accomack and Northampton Counties and the Town of Chincoteague. In addition to Chincoteague, the A-NPDC assists 18 incorporated towns on the Eastern Shore.

The Eastern Shore of Virginia is an approximately 70-mile long peninsula between the Atlantic Ocean and the Chesapeake Bay that has remained as one of the few remaining rural regions on the Atlantic seaboard. The region is unique for its vast wealth of coastal resources. The threats of development and constant changes to the region’s dynamic coastal environment put the socio-economic, natural, and built environments on the Eastern Shore at risk. As result, A-NPDC has championed several efforts focusing on ensuring a sustainable future for local economies and the environment.

## Executive Summary

During the 2017 Fiscal Year (FY2017), A-NPDC published the CAWG newsletter, hosted CAWG quarterly meetings, offered coastal management training opportunities for local government staff, and coordinated public education efforts. The A-NPDC also continued to staff the Eastern Shore of Virginia Ground Water Committee, provide GIS services, conduct state and federal environmental reviews, and work with local governments and organizations to address coastal management issues. The A-NPDC’s focal project for FY2017 was to develop draft operating documents for the establishment of the Eastern Shore Water Access Authority (ESWAA) as authorized by the Virginia General Assembly (VA GA) in 2014, present to the local jurisdictions, and report on the level of success of adoption. The ESWAA would be vital in meeting various needs of the region, and at the time of the writing of this report, that conversation is ongoing with the Counties.

As part of the overall mission, the A-NPDC maintains a coastal program with the assistance and support of the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The A-NPDC reached over 1,100 people with the 13 training and outreach events covering groundwater, coastal hazards and resiliency, floodplain management, and more. Almost half of a million dollars in grant funds and staff time were leveraged to aid the completion of multiple projects related to the goals presented in the scope of work for FY2017.

## Products and Outcomes

The following sections describe the activities completed during FY2016 and their current and anticipated outcomes.

### Climate Adaptation Working Group Newsletter

The CAWG is comprised of local, state, and federal representatives of government, aquaculture, agriculture, and community organizations and has met regularly since 2012. The group met three times during FY2017 to coordinate coastal management efforts, provide information and solicit input from localities on state and federal initiatives, and allow the exchange of information between localities. This task implements Executive Order 35, Goals 9 and 10. CAWG along with other A-NPDC efforts such as the Eastern Shore of Virginia Ground Water Committee and the Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee are working to ensure a productive future for Eastern Shore residents and the natural environment.

The CAWG newsletters were distributed to several hundred residents and stakeholders representing dozens of agencies/groups working in coastal management. Newsletters were distributed biweekly from October through January to support the group and supplement local decision-making processes related to sea-level rise and climate change. However, during the January meeting, members indicated that an annual summary of local efforts being taken towards climate adaptation would be more useful, thus e-newsletters were discontinued. Biweekly e-newsletters were comprised of research publications, news items, and planning tools. The CAWG newsletters for all of FY2016 and FY2017 can be found on the [Climate Adaptation page](#) of the [A-NPDC web site](#). These are digital newsletters with links to external sites and are not intended to be a printed resource. The [Annual Report](#) is also available on the [Climate Adaptation page](#) of the [A-NPDC web site](#).

### *Leveraged Accomplishments*

In FY2017, the CAWG meetings and newsletter resulted in directly assisting and enhancing the following activities:

- ◆ Engaged over 30 partnering and participating agencies including local, state, and federal government agencies and local NGOs;
- ◆ Held three meetings;
- ◆ Continued coordination with the Nature Conservancy to maintain and enhance the

Eastern Shore of Virginia [Coastal Resilience](#) Decision Support Tool;

- ◆ Participated in about three relevant webinars; and
- ◆ Reviewed approximately 8 adaption-related projects.

## Coastal Management Training

The A-NPDC coordinated thirteen training and outreach events during FY2017. The events are summarized in the following sections. This task implements Executive Order 35, Goals 2, 6, 8, 9, and 10. Overall, we strive to not only provide educational and training opportunities and relevant reports, but also safe places to discuss vital issues on the Shore, including, but not limited to coastal access, cultural heritage, conservation and recreation, hazard mitigation and resiliency, tourism and economics, health and the outdoors, and collaboration and corroboration among existing entities on the Shore. The table below identifies specific events and includes existing and anticipated outcomes. The sign in sheets and similar materials for the educational and training activities are available upon request.

**Table 1: Training and Outreach Events**

<u>Event Title</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Outcomes</u>
Accomack County Watershed Festival	10/18/2017	About 400 students and teachers from Accomack County public and private schools attended this all day event. A-NPDC staff educated the sixth-graders about zoning and the importance of setback and buffers for the health of the adjacent waterway and the resiliency of the home or building.
Water Clinic Interpretation and Annual Well, Septic, & Groundwater Forum	11/08/2017	Over fifty residents participated in this event, held at the ESCC. Attendees learned about the unique sole source aquifer, tips for maintenance of wells and septic systems (particularly after a flood event), and how to interpret water test results.

<u>Event Title</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Outcomes</u>
Accomack Planning Commission Coastal Resilience & Climate Adaptation Presentation	11/18/2017	A-NPDC staff gave a presentation to Commissioners and Accomack County staff, at a meeting of the Board of Supervisor-appointed Accomack County Planning Commission. The purpose was to have new research and programs included in updates to the comprehensive plan. Teaching our local planners and commissioners about increasing risks to our community and potential ways to improve our resiliency is an opportunity that we embrace and that will have far reaching effects beyond the 15 people present for this presentation.
FEMA Presentation	01/10/2018	A-NPDC staff presented during the FEMA Region III Mitigation Coffee Break with about 40 participants, Developing Natural Hazard Mitigation Strategies: Making Better Connections. The presentation focused on risk assessment, critical facilities, and unique mitigation projects/actions, as included in the 2016 Eastern Shore HMP.
Northampton Board of Supervisor Groundwater Sustainability Presentation	02/26/2018	During a regularly scheduled meeting of the Northampton County Board of Supervisors, A-NPDC staff presented to about a dozen Supervisors, County staff, and members of the public. The presentation was based on findings presented by the groundwater consultant and discussed during the February meeting of the ESVA Ground Water Committee with regards to current use of the sole aquifer system and implications for long-term sustainability, focusing on salt-water infiltration and a decline in the capacity of the confined Yorktown-Eastover aquifers.
ESVMG Groundwater Presentation	02/28/2018	A-NPDC staff presented to a group of about twenty people in the Eastern Shore of Virginia Master Gardeners course at the Virginia Tech AREC. The presentation was about an hour and a half and spanned from the formation of the Eastern Shore and our aquifer system to current regulation and use of the resource.

<u>Event Title</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Outcomes</u>
Virginia Green Travel Conference	03/01/2018	During the <i>Career Opportunities in Green Tourism</i> breakout session of the 5 <sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, held in Virginia Beach, A-NPDC staff gave a presentation to about twenty people and had an educational booth for the more than 125 attendees. She spoke about the importance of ecotourism, particularly in rural coastal Virginia, the Ecotour Guide Certification, Working Waterfronts, Public Access, and more.
VCPC Presentation	04/06/2018	A-NPDC staff presented to about fifteen Virginia Coastal Policy Center students and staff about seaside resiliency issues, marsh and barrier island migration, and potential dredging and beneficial use projects.
Northampton County Watershed Festival	04/12/2018	About 200 students and teachers from Northampton County public and private schools attended this all day event. A-NPDC staff educated the sixth-graders about zoning and the importance of setback and buffers for the health of the adjacent waterway and the resiliency of the home or building.
Exmore Earth Day Celebration	04/21/2018	About 200 adults and children attended this even in the Exmore Town Park. A-NPDC staff demonstrated where our fresh water originates and explained sensitivities and best practices to conserve the resource.
Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection	05/05/2018	Convenience Centers in Chincoteague, Grangeville, & Eastville served over 70 people and prevented about one ton of hazardous materials from potentially contaminating our ground and surface waters. The promotional campaign and word of mouth from participants also serves to educate residents about the proper ways to dispose of wastes and benefits of doing so.
Clean the Bay Day	06/02/2018	A-NPDC staff facilitated a cleanup of the Guard Shore and the surrounding areas. The group of over 40 participants prevented over 73 bags of land-based litter from becoming marine debris in Beasley Bay, the Chesapeake, and ultimately the Atlantic Ocean.
Team Science & Cross-Disciplinary Problem-Solving Training	06/19/2018	A-NPDC staff presented about Eastern Shore local issues to this group of educators organized by Virginia Sea Grant College. The focus was about critical and emerging coastal and marine related research needs and priority needs in our region.

<u>Event Title</u>	<u>Date(s)</u>	<u>Outcomes</u>
ESVA Garden Club SLR Presentation	09/19/2018	Presented on climate adaptation activities and needs to about forty members of the Eastern Shore of Virginia Garden Club.

## Technical Assistance

The A-NPDC provided technical assistance to local, state, and federal organizations on numerous occasions including environmental review, GIS, and information services during FY2016. Technical assistance activities are summarized in the following sections. This task implements Executive Order 35, Goals 1, 2, 4, 6, 9 and 10.

## Partnerships

The A-NPDC partnered with over 50 government and NGO organizations during FY2016 to complete projects aimed to complete the Scope of Work. **Table 2** summarizes A-NPDC partnerships for FY2017.

**Table 2: FY2017 Partnerships**

<b>ID</b>	<b>Agency/Group</b>	<b>Partnership Activity</b>
1	34 Agencies, Governments, and NGOs	A-NPDC staff coordinated the Eastern Shore CAWG which brought together 34 partnering groups quarterly to address climate change and sea level rise in the region.
2	TNC, VESLT, DGIF, Ducks Unlimited, NWR, VDCR, & more	The Southern Tip Partnership (STP) collaborates to ensure the effective conservation of lands on the Eastern Shore. The STP is also providing insight and input towards the development of the report: <i>Socio-economic Impacts of Conserved Land on Virginia's Eastern Shore</i> .
3	Accomack-Northampton Economic Development Committee	A-NPDC assisted with the development of an Economic Resilience chapter in the Regional Economic Development Plan.
4	The Nature Conservancy	A-NPDC staff partnered with TNC to continue to promote the Eastern Shore of Virginia Coastal Resilience Tool.
5	VIMS, VCZMP, Middle Peninsula PDC & Northern Neck PDC	A-NPDC served as partnering agency on the Rural Working Waterfronts Coalition and leveraged funding through VCZM to ensure and enhance working waterfronts in the VA coastal zone.

ID	Agency/Group	Partnership Activity
6	VDCR NHP, ESVA Resource & Development Council, Town of Exmore	A-NPDC staff worked to coordinate potential opportunities to implement the Shore Big Trees Program. On Arbor Day about two dozen trees were potted for use in future Shore Big Tree plantings. A-NPDC staff also maintained a native tree list to give to interested localities to plant their own native tree.
7	ESVA Environmental Education Council	A-NPDC staff served on the regional council to further environmental education efforts within the region.
8	Eastern Shore Watersheds Roundtable	A-NPDC staff served on the Steering Committee of the ESVA Watersheds Network. The network is a local watershed group that began meeting annually in 2001 to address pollution reduction strategies for ESVA watersheds through public education and outreach, data sharing, and research communication.
9	Eastern Shore Disaster Preparedness Coalition	A-NPDC staff followed and attended meetings as possible for this regional coalition focused on disaster preparedness and emergency management.
10	Eastern Shore Healthy Communities	A-NPDC staff coordinated with ESHC on their trails and potential linking to the Seaside Trail, etc.
11	VDCR	A-NPDC worked with VDCR to review the plans for the Virginia Water Trails logo and website.
12	USGS	The Ground Water Committee continues to contract USGS to complete annual electromagnetic-Induction logging of all relevant regional wells to be used primarily to determine changes in salinity of our ground water.
13	VDGIF	A-NPDC coordinated with local and state VDGIF staff to organize for the installation of interpretive signage at the Queen Sound Boat ramp and in the content development for Bayside interpretive signage that focuses on nearby Natural Area Preserves.
14	VDEQ	A-NPDC worked closely with VDEQ on groundwater resource concerns, Phase III WIP meetings, and in septic BMP implementation planning.
15	VDOT	A-NPDC worked closely with VDOT to manage the Sponsor-A-Road Pilot Program, which will clean up our rural roadways.
16	Waste Watchers of the Eastern Shore	A-NPDC staff worked with this non-profit organization towards increasing recycling and reducing littering, and thus land-based marine debris, through various projects.
17	ESVA Regional Navigable Waterways Committee	A-NPDC staff worked with the Committee to develop draft language for the Waterway Maintenance Fund, the Virginia Port Authority application process, and prioritizing state project areas for beneficial use projects.
18	VA Department of Historic Resources	A-NPDC staff worked with VDHR towards an appropriate historic resources element to be included in the water trail maps for each of the three rural coastal Virginia regions.

ID	Agency/Group	Partnership Activity
19	Wetlands Watch	A-NPDC staff work with this not-for-profit organization to train have a training for the use of their new Sea Level Rise application and following data collection sessions.

### *Leveraged Funds*

The A-NPDC used NOAA/VCZMP grant funds to leverage services and complete projects aimed at improving coastal management on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. **Table 3** summarizes instances where NOAA/VCZM grant funds were leveraged during FY2017. Almost \$500,000 was leveraged in FY2017 utilizing NOAA /VCZMP grant funds.

**Table 3: FY2017 Leveraged Funds**

ID	Group/ Event	Activity	FY2017 Amount
1	Arcadis	Eastern Shore Ground Water Committee funds used to support consulting hydrogeologist to the Eastern Shore Ground Water Committee.	\$21,666
2	Ground Water Committee	Eastern Shore of Virginia Ground Water Committee members' in-kind	\$6,160
3	Navigable Waterways Committee	ESVA Regional Navigable Waterway Committee members' in-kind	\$2,122
4	VA Dept. of Historic Resources	Funds used to leverage a survey of 5 properties on the Eastern Shore.	\$750
5	Accomack & Northampton Counties	Funds used to leverage an annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection.	\$14,000
6	Accomack County	Funds used to leverage the Eastern Shore GreenWorks Committee to oversee litter reduction strategies.	\$6,000
7	ESVA Climate Adaptation Working Group	A-NPDC staff coordinated a regional group focused on developing adaptation and outreach strategies for improving the Eastern Shore's ability to prepare and manage climate change and sea level rise. In-kind hours during meetings and working on the Annual Report.	\$3,460
8	GreenWorks	GreenWorks Committee members' in-kind	\$3,714
9	VDH HHWC	Staff was awarded a grant for \$114,875 and a commitment of \$57,986 in match for the construction, installation, and long-term plan for management of a permanent regional household hazardous waste facility to protect groundwater and surface water quality.	\$172,861
10	VCZMP	Staff will work with other regions to expand and complement the current Working Waterfront 309 strategy by develop and	\$47,500

ID	Group/ Event	Activity	FY2017 Amount
		implementing the tools and policies needed to ensure sustainability of the waterfronts and related industries in Rural Chesapeake Bay/Seaside of Virginia.	
12	VCZMP	<i>Pending:</i> The Virginia Oyster & Water Trail Eco-Tourism Collaboration will support and generate direct, indirect, and induced jobs – jobs that rely on the natural resources of the rural coastal areas - Year 2.	\$200,000
13	Chincoteague COC	Staff supplied the FY2016 VCZMP funded updated version of the Chincoteague Historical Walking & Biking Tour Brochure, which the Chamber of Commerce reprinted at a cost of about \$1,300 for 2,500.	\$1,300
<b>Total Leveraged Funds FY2016: \$479,533.00</b>			

### *Historical Searches*

Five historical searches were performed by A-NPDC staff during FY2017. Historically, the A-NPDC has provided this service to numerous agencies and without local availability of DSS, local agencies on the Eastern Shore would be required to pay about \$150 per search. Each environmental review corresponds with a historical search. **Table 4** summarizes the historical searches.

**Table 4: FY2016 Historical Searches**

Agency	Search Description	Outcomes
A-NPDC	Five searches were completed for the VCZMP Interpretive Signage program. Queen Sound Landing, Gargatha Landing, Folly Creek Landing, Onancock Wharf, Saxis Marina & Park	No historic properties were affected by the proposed projects and clearance was granted.

### *Information Requests*

The A-NPDC responded to more than 50 information requests from private, local, state, and federal organizations and private citizens during FY2017. Many, but not all, of these requests are summarized in **Table 5**.

**Table 5: FY2016 Information Requests**

ID	Date	Agency/Group	Contact	Request Description
1	10/22/2017	Accomack County resident	Miriam Riggs	Poultry setbacks and groundwater withdrawal concerns
2	10/24/2017	Shorekeeper	Jay Ford	VDEQ VPDES

ID	Date	Agency/Group	Contact	Request Description
3	11/14/2017	Resident	Jack Murray	Well casing information
4	11/14/2017	Resident	Jim Crunk	Well head elevation information
5	11/20/2017	Resident (Aquaculture Company Owner)	LeeAnn Fick	USCG AtoN removal schedule.
6	12/4/2017	Consultant	Norman Pitt	Meeting coordination aide; VDEQ & poultry growers
7	12/6/2017	VDEQ	Roger Everton	Litter; East Side Boat Ramp, Chincoteague
8	12-Dec	Onancock Town	Bill Kerbin	Interpretive signage for the Wharf
9	12/13/2017	Northampton County	Susan McGhee	Dredging and spoil use beneficially (Cherrystone/Chad Ballard)
10	1/2/2018	Shorekeeper	Jay Ford	Withdrawal/Recharge Question
11	1/3/2018	Matt McCullough	FEMA	Mitigation/Risk Assessment. Developing Natural Hazard Mitigation Strategies: Making Better Connections: The heart of any natural hazards mitigation plan is the mitigation strategy - it's the blueprint for reducing your potential losses identified in the risk assessment. This webinar will explore how to connect your risk and capability assessments with your mitigation strategy, engage specific audiences in developing the strategy, and the process to identify and prioritize specific actions to reduce risk.
12	1/3/2018	Exmore Rotary Club/Northampton Planning Commission	Mark Freeze	Status of ESVA groundwater resources presentation request (x2).
13	1/17/2018	Resident	Ken Dufty	VDEQ GWC Presentation
14	1/18/2018	Northampton County BOS	Spenser Murray	Stormwater WG Recommendations Update

ID	Date	Agency/Group	Contact	Request Description
15	1/18/2018	Northampton County Planning Commission	Janet Sturgis	GWC
16	1/19/2018	Accomack County resident	Leslie Wilder	Groundwater
17	1/25/2018	Accomack County resident	Debbie Lalor	Groundwater Withdrawal Permit
18	1/29/2018	Accomack County	Gene Taylor	Census?
19	2/6/2018	Northampton County Resident	Alan Cochran	Hydrogen Sulfide smell water
20	3/8/2018	RC&DC	Josephine Mooney	LOS; Specialty Crop Grant
21	3/12/2018	W&M	Angela King	RAFT research; HMP goal 'complete' vs. 'ongoing'
22	3/20/2018	Resident	Sandra Beerends	Environmental Management of Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations
23	3/20/2018	Northampton Resident	Ken Dufty	Nitrates in Irrigation Water: An Asset for Crop Production
24	3/22/2018	Accomack County resident	Joe Kiminiski	Asbestos Disposal
25	3/28/2018	Accomack County DPW	Linda & Dawn	Asbestos Disposal, proper disposal of unique items
26	3/29/2018	Resident	Gina Walsh	CTBD participation
27	4/5/2018	Northampton	John Coker	"Seaside Trail" Access at landfill
28	4/6/2018	Northampton Birding Tourism	Martina Coker	Birding Resources Website
29	5/1/2018	Accomack Resident	Bobby	HHWC
30	5/1/2018	Living Shoreline Solutions	Jim Anderson	Tangier Island
31	4/24/2018	Accomack County resident	Michelle	HHWC; Propane Tank Disposal
32	4/18/2018	Accomack County resident	Betty Martin	HHWC; Proper disposal of TV
33	5/1/2018	Town of Cheriton	Stacey Sparrow, Clerk	HMP and FEMA NFIP

ID	Date	Agency/Group	Contact	Request Description
34	5/5/2018	Resident	John Deal	HHWC; gas/oil mixture
35	5/7/2018	CSE Service LLC	Norman Pitt	WSPs/Preservation Plan; Drought Response and Contingency Plan
36	6/29/2018	Oceana	Terra Pascaros	Town information; resolutions opposing offshore drilling and seismic exploration
37	7/5/2018	Delaware Waterman	Carey Campbell	WWF Rack Card info
38	7/17/2018	VDEQ	Sara Jordan	WSPs/Preservation Plan; Drought Response and Contingency Plan
39	7/18/2018	VDEQ	Sara Jordan	WSPs/Preservation Plan; Drought Response and Contingency Plan
40	7/18/2018	Resident	Alan Stevens	Septic Services
41	7/19/2018	Cherrystone Aquaculture	Kim Husky	ESRNWC mtg
42	7/24/2018	VDEQ	Steve Hummel	IP SOW
43	7/10/2018	Accomack Resident	Sandra Beerends	GW SSA Info
44	7/31/2018	William & Mary	Angela King	RAFT research; Onancock Town Plan
45	8/14/2018	Northampton County	Bob Van Gorden	Well information
46	8/15/2018	Resident	Tyron Dailey	Disposal of old gas
47	8/15/2018	Chincoteague Island Planning Commission	Bob Shendock	WWF, Shore Big Trees, LULC aerial imagery/data, CZM Kiosk
48	8/20/2018	Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce	Evelyn Shotwell	Chincoteague Historic Walking/Biking Tour Brochure

## Ground Water Committee

The A-NPDC staffed the Eastern Shore of Virginia Ground Water Committee and managed the Ground Water Committee's consulting hydrogeologist during FY2017. Committee Officers elected for FY 2017 were Mr. Paul Muhly (Accomack County Supervisor) as Chairman and Mr. John Coker (Northampton County Supervisor) as Vice Chairman, they transferred official positions in August.

## *Summary of Accomplishments*

A-NPDC staff coordinated ground water compliance reviews with DEQ and local aspects of the ground water model update developed by USGS. A-NPDC staff also maintained and updated the Ground Water Committee web site and conducted educational programs including one public workshops and several presentations to local government boards. During FY2017, the Ground Water Committee held 9 meetings, awarded the 2017 Eastern Shore Ground Water Award, commented on multiple regulatory actions, maintained the *Eastern Shore of Virginia Ground Water Supply Protection and Management Plan*, began updating both the Accomack and Northampton County Water Supply Plans, worked with both Counties and the Town of Tangier to come into compliance with state regulations concerning drought contingency planning, conducted a Household Hazardous Waste Collection (please visit the [web page](#) for historic summary information and Spanish and English versions of the FY17 flyer), and reviewed multiple environmental reviews and regulatory items.

Additional specific notable accomplishments of the Ground Water Committee in FY2017 are summarized in **Table 6**.

**Table 6: FY2016 Ground Water Committee Accomplishments**

<b>Staff Research Documentation</b>		
<b>ID</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Month</b>
1	Presented about VDEQ VPDES public comment notice. Reported on the Wagner Borrow Pit research. Finalized preparations for the Second Annual Well & Septic Forum.	Oct
2	Organized USGS presentation concerning EM-logging data analysis. Presented progress on household hazardous waste collection contractor data. Presented data from the Water Clinic.	Nov
3	Facilitated and presented during the Second Annual Well & Septic Forum, which had over 50 attendees.	Nov
4	Researched the Cape May Desalination Facility to present conclusions to Committee	January
5	Presented information about historic awardees and potential candidates for the Ground Water Award. Presented about the VDEQ Consent Order for Lance G. Fisher. Had NASA staff provide an update with regards to the Chincoteague wells.	Feb
6	Supplied supplemental information to Accomack County staff for their annual PC/BOS poultry update. Researched and reported on the VDEQ Water Quality Monitoring Program.	Feb
7	Reviewed and presented the EPA's 2016 Virginia Toxics Release Inventory Report.	Mar/Apr
8	Planned the education curriculum for the Exmore Earth Day Celebration.	April

9	Organized and facilitated the Household Hazardous Waste Collection. Presented historic and current data from the HHWC to the Committee. Aided the Committee in amending their by-laws.	May
10	Compiled and presented information about the VDEQ Consent Orders for 57 poultry facilities.	August
11	Researched funding opportunities and compiled data for a more effective and permanent HHWC.	August
12	Staff continues communications with hydrogeologist and climate impact specialist with Dewberry in order to have research completed in the region.	June/July/August
13	Drafted comment letter for the Committee for the VDEQ Consent Orders (see ID 10 above) public comment period.	August
14	Provided an update with regards to the VDEQ Consent Orders (see ID 10 above).	September
15	Compiled extensive information concerning the legal obligations of well drillers to submit GW-2 forms. Compiled potential legislative options to move forward with research and modeling needs, as well as legislative options for increasing the use of the Columbia aquifer.	September
16	Organized the first meeting of the newly established Legislative Subcommittee with stakeholders, scheduled for October.	September
<b>Technical Documentation</b>		
<b>ID</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Month</b>
1	Attended the VDEQ Aquifer Science and Modeling Workshop. Information covered and discussed at the workshop included: 1) current understanding of the hydrogeologic framework for the Eastern Shore with a focus of paleochannels; 2) recalibration and sensitivity analysis for the Eastern Shore Model; and 3) modeled groundwater withdrawal impacts from current and permitted withdrawals on the Shore.	Oct
2	Presented limited water quality results from the domestic well sampling and discussed results in the context of the groundwater resource and domestic well construction considerations.	Nov
3	Presented draft legislation under consideration by the General Assembly. Groundwater Committee moved to support Senate Bill 520, legislation that would encourage use of the more sustainable surficial (Columbia) aquifer.	Jan
5	DEQ reviewed the Groundwater Withdrawal regulatory requirements and how the regulations seek to preserve a sustainable groundwater supply for the Eastern Shore of Virginia.	Jan
6	DEQ reviewed status of the Poultry House groundwater withdrawal permitting efforts to date. Provided a summary of the Applications that have been submitted for Poultry House operations.	Jan
7	Maintaining a Sustainable Groundwater Resource in the Multi-Aquifer Columbia – Yorktown-Eastover aquifer system: This presentation will 1) define sustainability in the context of the Eastern Shore aquifers; 2) identify factors that determine sustainability of the different aquifers; 2) limitations of the aquifers; 3) issues that have been experienced on the Eastern Shore; and 4) measures that can be taken to help maintain a sustainable supply	Feb
4	Presented: Columbia (Surficial) Aquifer as a Groundwater Resource on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. The presentation provided current information on our understating of the unconfined Columbia aquifer, sustainability, water quality characteristics, and vulnerabilities.	Mar

5	Discussed potential impacts from a proposed expansion of a borrow pit in Northampton Count.	Apr
6	Presented: Groundwater Level Trends on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. Groundwater level trends are one of the primary metrics used to track status of groundwater aquifers. Groundwater level trends as measured from State Observation Wells have been periodically reviewed by the Committee, with the last update approximately 5-years ago.	Apr
7	Review DEQ Consent Orders for unpermitted poultry houses that appear to require a groundwater withdrawal permit.	Aug
8	Review draft poultry house Groundwater Withdrawal Applications for 41 applications provided to the Groundwater Committee. The review focused on location of the proposed withdrawals, target aquifers, requested amounts, and considerations for the groundwater resource.	Aug
9	Reviewed proposed additional activities for the Groundwater Committee to consider for FY2019.	Aug
10	Supplemental Water Quality information on Columbia aquifer and Yorktown-Eastover aquifers	Sep

### Implement Committee Work Plan

Activity	Month(s)	Outcome
Prepared and presented on maintaining a Sustainable Groundwater Resource in the Multi-Aquifer Columbia – Yorktown-Eastover aquifer system: This presentation 1) defined sustainability in the context of the Eastern Shore aquifers; 2) identified factors that determine sustainability of the different aquifers; 2) limitations of the aquifers; 3) issues that have been experienced on the Eastern Shore; and 4) measures that can be taken to help maintain a sustainable supply	February	Presented to the groundwater committee followed by discussion with the Committee and public. Presentation is posted on the Groundwater Committee website for public access.
Prepared and presented on Columbia (Surficial) Aquifer as a Groundwater Resource on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. The presentation provided current information on our understating of the unconfined Columbia aquifer, sustainability, water quality characteristics, and vulnerabilities.	March	Presented to the groundwater committee followed by discussion with the Committee and public. Presentation is posted on the Groundwater Committee website for public access.
Presented to the Accomack County Board of Supervisors the presentation on maintaining a Sustainable Groundwater Resource in the Multi-Aquifer Columbia – Yorktown-Eastover aquifer system.	March	Presented the groundwater sustainability presentation to the Accomack County Board of Supervisors.
Presented: Groundwater Level Trends on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. Groundwater level trends are one of the primary metrics used to track status of groundwater aquifers. Groundwater level trends as measured from State Observation	April	Presented to the groundwater committee followed by discussion with the Committee and public. The presentation elicited questions regarding metrics used to monitor for groundwater sustainability which will be addressed in the May 2018 Committee meeting.

Wells have been periodically reviewed.		
Presented: Sustainability Metrics.	May	Presented the primary methods and metrics used to evaluate groundwater resources from the context of maintaining a sustainable supply. Covered included metrics appropriate for groundwater resources in general and metrics that are more important for the aquifers that provide water to the Eastern Shore.
Discussed proposed new location for Town of Chincoteague well field. Prepared a brief memo to submit to the Town.	May	The discussion identified both regulatory and engineering steps that will needed to develop a well field at the new location and methods DEQ will use to evaluate potential impacts to other existing users.

The Ground Water Committee Report implements Executive Order 35, Goals 1, 2, 8, 9, and 10.

### *Packets and Minutes for the Monthly Meetings*

The minutes present activities related statutory, regulatory, and permit tracking/review; research and investigation; and implementation of ground water protection. Minutes for the Committee meetings can be found on the [Ground Water Committee page](#) of the [A-NPDC web site](#). Many additional resources can be found on the site as well. The committee met on the third Tuesday of each month, with the exceptions of December 2017, January 2018, June 2018, and July 2018.

## Eastern Shore Water Access Authority Development Facilitation

During the fall and winter of 2017/2018 the draft operating agreement, draft resolution, and a presentation to explain the benefits of the Water Access Authority (all attached) were developed. This was done with input from the Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee (ESRNWC), which met in October 2017. In March of 2018, staff presented this information to the A-NPC Commission. It was well received and the Commission made a motion to have staff present to each County Board of Supervisors. Staff presented to both Accomack County and Northampton County Board of Supervisors on April 18<sup>th</sup> and April 23<sup>rd</sup> respectively and again to the ESRNWC during their April meeting.

During May and June, some edits were made to the drafts and additional information acquired as directed by the County Boards. Legal counsel was obtained to review the enabling legislation and the draft operating agreement. The updated drafts and additional information were provided to the County Administrators for both Accomack and Northampton Counties with an offer to return to each Board to request adoption of the

resolution. Neither County invited A-NPDC staff to return to their Board meetings, based on additional qualms that were beyond our ability to calm.

During late October and early November of 2018, staff has included this topic in meetings organized with the County Administrators, Board of Supervisor Chairs, and local Delegate and Senator. A-NPDC staff will continue to work on establishing the ESWAA to meet the regional needs of property acquisition, public access, and dredging and beneficial use projects.

## Benefits Accrued from Prior VCZMP Grants

Below is a table naming and describing A-NPDC projects funded by VCZMP in previous years. The table highlights the projects that have produced measurable benefits in subsequent years and/or have served as a foundation for additional projects. Information about each TA Program Grant year, from FY2002 to present, can be found on the A-NPDC web site at the following address. <http://www.a-npdc.org/acomack-northampton-planning-district-commission/coastal-resources/technical-assistance-program/>

**Table 7: VCZMP Benefits Accrued**

<b><u>VCZM Grant #</u></b>	<b><u>NOAA Grant #</u></b>	<b><u>Project Title</u></b>	<b><u>Description of Benefits Accrued</u></b>
FY2002, Task 12.09	NA17OZ2355-01	Seaside Heritage Program: Ecotourism Access Improvements	Two floating docks were constructed in Chincoteague and Wachapreague resulting in enhanced access for paddlers. This infrastructure has been critical for the Seaside Water Trail and Camping Accommodation Implementation Plan
FY2003. Task 12.11	NA03NOS4190104	Seaside Heritage Program: Ecotourism Access Improvements	One floating dock was constructed in Willis Wharf resulting in enhanced access for paddlers. The infrastructure has been critical for the Seaside Water Trail and Camping Accommodation Implementation Plan
FY2004, Task 11.10	NA04NOS4190060	Seaside Heritage Program: Ecotourism Access Improvements	Supplies purchased for the Willis Wharf Observation Deck led to construction using VCZM funds in FY05. The project also funded the construction of a floating dock in Quinby resulting in enhanced access for paddlers. This infrastructure has been critical for the Seaside Water Trail and Camping Accommodation Implementation Plan

<b><u>VCZM Grant #</u></b>	<b><u>NOAA Grant #</u></b>	<b><u>Project Title</u></b>	<b><u>Description of Benefits Accrued</u></b>
FY2004, Task 83.06	NA04NOS4190060	Chesapeake Bay Buffer Land Classification Project	Project outcomes were built upon during FY06 TA Grant. Is regularly used for land use decisions by localities and available on Coastal GEMS
FY2004, Task 41	NA04NOS4190060	A-NPDC Technical Assistance Program	The ES Ground Water Committee leveraged work from this year's grant to complete additional and ongoing tasks during the subsequent year's grant.
FY2005, Task 41	NA05NOS4191180	A-NPDC Technical Assistance Program	The ES Ground Water Committee leveraged work from this year's grant to complete additional and ongoing tasks during the subsequent year's grant.
FY2006, Task 41	NA06NOS4190241	A-NPDC Technical Assistance Program	The ES Ground Water Committee leveraged work from this year's grant to complete additional and ongoing tasks during the subsequent year's grant.
FY2007, Task 41	NA07NOS4190178	A-NPDC Technical Assistance Program	The Seaside Water Trail Historic Resources Project has leveraged additional VCZM Grants associated with the trail.
FY2008, Task 14	NA08NOS4190466	Wachapreague Seaside Park Plant ES Natives Demonstration Garden	A sub-program for Plant ES Natives, called Shore Big Trees, was established and a native tree was leveraged in the Wachapreague.
FY2008, Task 41	NA08NOS4190466	A-NPDC Technical Assistance Program	The Chincoteague Tour Training Guide was leveraged into additional work during TA Program grants in subsequent years. The ES Ground Water Committee leveraged work from this year's grant to complete additional and ongoing tasks during the subsequent year's grant.
FY2009, Task 41	NA08NOS4190163	A-NPDC Technical Assistance Program	The ES Ground Water Committee leveraged work from this year's grant to complete additional and ongoing tasks during the subsequent year's grant.
FY2010, Task 41	NA10NOS4190205	A-NPDC Technical Assistance Program	The ES Ground Water Committee leveraged work from this year's grant to complete additional and ongoing tasks during the subsequent year's grant.
FY2010, Task 41	NA10NOS4190205	A-NPDC Technical Assistance Program	The ES Ground Water Committee leveraged work from this year's grant to complete additional and ongoing tasks during the subsequent year's grant.

<b><u>VCZM Grant #</u></b>	<b><u>NOAA Grant #</u></b>	<b><u>Project Title</u></b>	<b><u>Description of Benefits Accrued</u></b>
FY2010, Task 96.01	NA10NOS4190205	Seaside SAMP Phase 3 Technical Assistance	This project led to additional VCZM grants related to assessing Recreational & Commercial uses on the Seaside to enhance coastal management. The work also led to VCZM funding for the establishment of restoration goals for SAV on the Seaside.
FY2011, Task 41	NA11NOS4190122	A-NPDC Technical Assistance Program	The Boating and Marina Needs Enhancement Assessment was leveraged into subsequent VCZM grants related to Working Waterfronts
FY2011, Task 96	NA11NOS4190122	Seaside SAMP Recreational Use Assessment and SAV Restoration Goals	This work was leveraged into subsequent VCZM funding for an assessment of commercial use and exploration of state-policy for establishment of SAV restoration set-aside areas for Seaside.
FY2012, Task 41	NA12NOS4190168	A-NPDC Technical Assistance Program	The ES Ground Water Committee leveraged work from this year's grant to complete additional and ongoing tasks during the subsequent year's grant.
FY2012, Task 96	NA12NOS4190168	Seaside SAMP Recreational & Commercial Use Assessment and SAV Restoration Goals	The Commercial Fishing Use Assessment was leveraged into additional planning work funded by BOEM and VDMME regarding commercial and recreational fishing activities within the Virginia Wind Energy Area
FY2012, Task 51	NA12NOS4190168	Eastern Shore Water Trails Association Development & Seaside Water Trail Camping Accommodation Implementation Plan	No work leveraged from grant to date.

<b><u>VCZM Grant #</u></b>	<b><u>NOAA Grant #</u></b>	<b><u>Project Title</u></b>	<b><u>Description of Benefits Accrued</u></b>
FY2013, Task 41	NA13NOS4190135	A-NPDC Technical Assistance Program	The Proceedings of the Eastern Shore Land Protection Working Group Report identified additional economic impact studies needed in the region. The work has been leveraged for FY15 through a VCZMP grant. The ES Ground Water Committee leveraged work from this year's grant to complete additional and ongoing tasks during the subsequent year's grant.
FY2013, Task 53	NA13NOS4190135	Eastern Shore Transportation Infrastructure Inundation Vulnerability Assessment	The report has been regularly utilized to leverage and enhance federal and state transportation funding applications. The report is being used in the Coastal Resilience Tool.
FY2014, Task 41	NA14NOS4190141	A-NPDC Technical Assistance Program	The special project, Shore Big Trees Implementation Plan, has led to native tree plantings in local communities. The ES Ground Water Committee leveraged work from this year's grant to complete additional and ongoing tasks during the subsequent year's grant.
FY2015, Task 41	NA15NOS4190164	A-NPDC Technical Assistance Program	The Coastal Resilience collaboration is serving as a major data resource for the EFC resilience finance strategy and planning development project.
FY2015, Task 41	NA15NOS4190164	A-NPDC Technical Assistance Program	The special project, Regional Dredging Needs Assessment, is leading to a Section 22 initiative with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in collaboration with the Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee.
FY2016, Task 41	NA16NOS4190171	A-NPDC Technical Assistance Program	The special project, Chincoteague historic Walking & Biking Brochure, has been updated and reprinted by the COC during FY2017 and is anticipated to continue to be managed by the Town entities and help drive business and raise visitor awareness.

<b><u>VCZM Grant #</u></b>	<b><u>NOAA Grant #</u></b>	<b><u>Project Title</u></b>	<b><u>Description of Benefits Accrued</u></b>
FY2016, Task 41	NA16NOS4190171	A-NPDC Technical Assistance Program	The special project, Chincoteague historic Walking & Biking Brochure, added ES Native Garden demos to the map, and is helping to improve maintenance and visitation to the areas.
FY2017, Task 72	NA17NOS4190152	Virginia Oyster & Water Trail Eco-Tourism Collaboration	Based on FY2013 efforts of a different VCZMP grantee and connections made over the years of implementing the TA Program, this project was designed and is currently underway.

# Appendix A. ESWAA Documents

## Resolution

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE EASTERN SHORE PUBLIC ACCESS AUTHORITY,  
AS ENABLED BY 2014 HB844.**

**WHEREAS,** The County of \_\_\_\_\_ recognizes that our shorelines are high priority natural areas; and

**WHEREAS,** The County of \_\_\_\_\_ recognizes that the region needs to provide more public access; and

**WHEREAS,** The County of \_\_\_\_\_ recognizes that certain public access issues can be addressed regionally; and

**WHEREAS,** The County of \_\_\_\_\_ recognizes the benefit to the region by providing a process for improving and managing public access across the region; and

**WHEREAS,** The County of \_\_\_\_\_ recognizes the growing need for navigable waterway maintenance and the associated beneficial use of dredged materials; and

**WHEREAS,** The County of \_\_\_\_\_ recognizes the increase in demand by residents to take advantage of acquisition programs and erosion-preventative property protection projects; and

**WHEREAS,** The County of \_\_\_\_\_ recognizes that the County has limited funding sources and staff to address the project management, permit application process, and physical implementation of dredging and beneficial use project needs, and that many such projects are best addressed regionally.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THIS DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2018** that the \_\_\_\_\_ County Board of Supervisors does hereby declare a need for the Eastern Shore Water Access Authority's existence; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the County Administrator is authorized and directed to execute the Eastern Shore Water Access Authority Operating Agreement, and is authorized to take all actions necessary to carry out the obligations of \_\_\_\_\_ County under the agreement.

**Eastern Shore Water Access Authority – Appointment (1)**

On a motion by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, the following resolution was adopted by the following vote: \_\_\_\_\_

**WHEREAS,** The \_\_\_\_\_ County Board of Supervisors has decided to join the Eastern Shore Water Access Authority to identify and preserve public access points to the waters of \_\_\_\_\_ County and the Eastern Shore; and

**WHEREAS,** The Eastern Shore Water Access Operating Agreement requires that an appointment be made to the authority to represent \_\_\_\_\_ County, and that that appointment be a member of the Board or the county administrator; and

**WHEREAS,** The Board is now prepared to make this appointment.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** By the \_\_\_\_\_ County Board of Supervisors that \_\_\_\_\_ is hereby appointed as the \_\_\_\_\_ County representative on the Eastern Shore Public Access Authority.

**Eastern Shore Water Access Authority – Appointment (2)**

On a motion by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, the following resolution was adopted by the following vote: \_\_\_\_\_

**WHEREAS,** The \_\_\_\_\_ County Board of Supervisors has decided to join the Eastern Shore Water Access Authority to identify and preserve public access points to the waters of \_\_\_\_\_ County and the Eastern Shore; and

**WHEREAS,** The Eastern Shore Water Access Operating Agreement requires that an appointment be made to the authority to represent \_\_\_\_\_ County, and that that appointment be a member of the Board or the county administrator; and

**WHEREAS,** The Board is now prepared to make this appointment.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** By the \_\_\_\_\_ County Board of Supervisors that \_\_\_\_\_ is hereby appointed as the \_\_\_\_\_ County representative on the Eastern Shore Public Access Authority.

# Operating Agreement

## Eastern Shore Water Access Authority Operating Agreement

(Ratified \_\_\_\_\_, 2018)

This Agreement is made and entered into this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2018, by and among the COUNTIES of Accomack and Northampton, political subdivisions of the Commonwealth of Virginia, collectively referred to as the “Member Jurisdictions” and the EASTERN SHORE WATER ACCESS AUTHORITY.

### WITNESSETH:

- I. Recitals.
  - a. The Member Jurisdictions recognize that our shorelines are high priority natural areas and that we must provide public access across the region.
  - b. The Member Jurisdictions further recognize that it is critical that we set aside recreational access sites for all types of recreational activities, such as birding, hunting, fishing, boating, picnicking, and sight-seeing. These recreational activities associated with our rivers, bays, and tidal creeks and marshes are important to our economy and to the citizens of the Commonwealth.
  - c. The Member Jurisdictions additionally recognize that the water access authority will further benefit the region by providing a standard process for improving and managing public access across the region.
  - d. The Member Jurisdictions recognize that the water access authority will benefit the region by restoring or creating tidal wetlands for erosion prevention, nutrient and pollutant buffering, habitat preservation, and mitigation credit accumulation.
  - e. The Member Jurisdictions further recognize that the needs for navigable waterway maintenance and associated beneficial use of dredged material are growing, and that the water access authority can serve the region by working to secure funding in order to obtain permits, manage engineering, and perform dredging projects on waterways and construct facilities and infrastructure within the region to enhance recreational and commercial public access and navigability.
  - f. To provide a mechanism for operating and financing the Eastern Shore Water Access Authority, the General Assembly of Virginia, at the request of the Member Jurisdictions, has adopted title 15.2, Chapter 66 §15.2-7400 through §15.2-7425 of the Acts of Assembly of 2014 (the “Enabling Legislation”), which provides for the creation of the Eastern Shore Water Access Authority (the “Authority”) and grants

it broad powers with respect to preserving, procuring, and managing public access. The Enabling Legislation contemplates that the Authority will be activated by one or more of the Member Jurisdictions adopting a resolution to declare the need for the Authority's existence, and contracting with the Authority for necessary activities. This Agreement is intended to fulfill that requirement.

II. Appointment of Members: Ratification by Authority.

Upon approval of this Agreement the governing body of each Member Jurisdiction shall appoint one person whom shall be a member of the appointing governing body or its chief operating officer to serve as a director of the Authority, as contemplated by the Enabling Legislation. In the event there are two or fewer participating jurisdictions in the Authority, each participating jurisdiction shall appoint two directors. Following their appointment, the directors shall hold an initial meeting to elect officers and to ratify this Agreement. Thereafter, the Authority shall possess and exercise all the powers and functions enumerated in the Enabling Legislation.

III. Operation of Authority.

Following its activation, the Authority shall proceed to develop, modify, and implement a regional public access strategic plan in accordance with the Enabling Legislation § 15.2-7401 Creation; public purpose.

The Authority shall assess all properties to determine which holdings, or portions of holdings, should be sold to advance the mission of the Authority in accordance with § 15.2-7401 item 6.

The Authority shall not undertake any project in any jurisdiction without the approval of the governing body of that jurisdiction.

The Authority shall not accept loans, borrow money, or issue bonds, and thus is never to call on § 15.2-7406 item 15 nor § 15.2-7412.

IV. Annual Budgets; Contributions from Member Jurisdictions.

- a. As soon as practicable after it is activated, and by December 1 of each future year, the Authority shall develop and present to the Member Jurisdictions its operating and capital budgets for the fiscal year beginning the following July 1, showing all contemplated expenditures for operation, capital expenses, and debt service and all anticipated revenues from operation, federal and state grants, and other sources. Any Member Jurisdiction may contribute funds to support activities of the Authority, but such contributions shall be subject to annual appropriation by its governing body unless the authority and Member Jurisdictions have agreed upon a formal financing agreement.

V. Withdrawal of Membership.

In accordance with the Enabling Legislation, any member jurisdiction may withdraw from membership in the Authority by resolution or ordinance of its governing body. However, no member jurisdiction shall be permitted to withdraw from the Authority after any obligation has been incurred except by unanimous vote of all member jurisdictions.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF** this Agreement has been executed on behalf of each of the Member Jurisdictions and the Authority pursuant to action of their governing bodies on the dates indicated.

Approved By \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY OF ACCOMACK  
 Board of Supervisors  
 \_\_\_\_\_, 2018

Approved By \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON  
 Board of Supervisors  
 \_\_\_\_\_, 2018

(Add any incorporated Town interested.)

## By-Laws

**BY-LAWS  
OF  
EASTERN SHORE PUBLIC ACCESS AUTHORITY  
(Ratified \_\_\_\_\_, 2018)**

1. **Name.** The name and title of this Authority is the Eastern Shore Public Access Authority.
2. **Office.** The principal office of the Eastern Shore Public Access Authority shall be in Accomac, Virginia.
3. **Seal.** The Authority’s seal shall be circular in form and shall have inscribed thereon the name of the Authority and the words “Corporate, Virginia 2018.”
4. **Appointment and Tenure of Board of Directors.** The powers of the Authority shall be

vested in the directors thereof in office. The governing body of each participating political subdivision shall appoint the number of directors, who may be members of the appointing governing body, set forth opposite its name below:

County of Accomack	1
County of Northampton	1
Town of Chincoteague	1
Town of Cape Charles	1
Town of Saxis	1
Town of Tangier	1

The initial term for the Director from Accomack County shall be one year

The initial term for the Director from Northampton County shall be one year

The initial term for the Director from the Town of Chincoteague shall be one year

The initial term for the Director from the Town of Cape Charles shall be one year

The initial term for the Director from the Town of Saxis shall be one year

The initial term for the Director from the Town of Tangier shall be one year

After the initial term, a director will serve a four-year term or until his / her successor is appointed and qualified. The governing body of each political subdivision shall be empowered to remove at

any time, without cause, any director appointed by it and appoint a successor director to fill the remaining portion of the removed director's term.

The governing body of each member political subdivision may appoint an alternate whose term shall be the same as the director of each political subdivision, provided, however, that the alternate's term shall not expire because of a director's death, disqualification, resignation, or termination of employment with the director's political subdivision. For purposes of these ByLaws, if a director is not present at a meeting of the Authority, the alternate for that member political subdivision present at a meeting shall have all the voting and other rights of a director hereunder and shall be counted for the purposes of determining a quorum at any meeting of the Authority. Wherever reference is made in these By-Laws to "directors," such term shall include an alternate acting in place of a director pursuant to the conditions set forth in the immediately preceding sentence. All notices provided for herein shall be given to alternates as well as directors.

- 5. Organization.** A majority of the directors in office shall constitute a quorum. No vacancy in the membership of the Authority shall impair the right of a quorum to exercise all rights and perform all duties of the Authority. Business shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order.
- 6. Meetings.** The Board of Directors shall hold regular meetings on the second Thursday of even months: February, April, June, August, October, and December. At the first meeting in any year, the Authority shall elect officers for the ensuing year, and in the event that such a day is legal holiday under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, then the same shall be held the next succeeding secular day not a legal holiday under the laws of said commonwealth, or at such time as may be determined by resolution of the Authority.
- 7. Special Meetings.** Special meetings of the Authority may be called by any three directors upon at least three working days written notice to each director served personally or left at his/her usual place of business or residence
- 8. Special Subcommittee.** Any Director may establish a subcommittee comprised of members of his / her choosing to work with Authority staff to advance projects from the Directors locality.
- 9. Officers.** The Board of Directors shall annually elect a chairman and a vice-chairman from their membership, a secretary and a treasurer or a secretary-treasurer from their membership or not as they deem appropriate, and such other officers as they may deem appropriate.

**10. Executive Director.** The Board of Directors may appoint an executive director, who shall not be a director, who shall exercise such powers and duties as may be delegated to him by the Board of Directors, including powers and duties involving the exercise of discretion.

**11. Duties of Officers.**

a. Chairman: The Chairman shall conduct all meetings of the Board of Directors and shall have general and active management of the affairs of the Authority.

b. Vice-Chairman: The Vice-Chairman shall have all powers and duties of the Chairman in the absence or disability of the Chairman.

c. Secretary: The Secretary shall act as clerk of all meetings of the Authority; shall record all proceedings of such meetings, sending a copy of each meeting’s minutes to each director following the regular meeting; shall record all votes and shall have custody of all books and records of the Authority, except those kept by the Treasurer, and shall jointly with the Chairman execute all contracts and perform all other duties as may be assigned from time to time.

d. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall jointly with the Chairman sign all checks upon moneys of the Authority, and keep the financial records of the Authority, provide for the custody of the funds and other property of the Authority, and perform all other duties incident to his / her office.

e. Other Officers: Such other officers as may from time to time be selected by the Board of Directors shall perform such duties as may be specifically assigned to them by the Authority.

**11. Compensation.** If financial funds are available, each director may be reimbursed by the Authority for the amount of actual expenses incurred by him in the performance of his / her duties.

**12. Amendments.** These By-Laws may be altered, amended, and/or repealed by the majority members of the Board of Directors at any meeting after thirty days’ prior written notice of such an intention to each Director by the Secretary.

\_\_\_\_\_, 2018

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

## Power Point Presentation for Localities

**Eastern Shore Water Access Authority**

Benefits, Uses, & Operating Details

Shannon Alexander  
Coastal Resources Program Manager, A-NPDC

**Presentation Purpose**

Consider supporting the creation of the WAA by local political subdivisions – Staff would like to present to both County Boards

2014 - House Bill 844 – [Eastern Shore Water Access Authority Act](#)

**Potential Benefits & Uses**

- Commercial Access – Working Waterfronts
- Recreational Access – Parks, Docks, Camping Platforms, Hunting, Etc.
- Dredging – Spoil Site & Beneficial Use Project Sites
- Climate Adaptation
- Hazard Mitigation/Resilience
- Grant Match/Leverage
- Wetlands Mitigation Bank
- Environmental Educational Opportunities

**Commercial Access – Working Waterfronts**

- 117 Waterfront Working Waterfronts Inventoried
- Including: 6 retail seafood, 11 wholesale seafood, 15 marinas
- Traditional access sites serving as portals for the transportation of seafood-related products are being sold or developed or otherwise restricted
- Opportunity to operate commercial docks, increasing regional offerings and creating a revenue source

**Current Public Access Levels**

- 6 VDGIF boat ramps and ~30 other public access sites serving nearly 1,400 miles of upland shoreline (VIMS, 2017)
- According to WWF:
  - 31 boat ramps (including private)
  - 4 fishing piers
  - 6 harbors
  - 5 parks
  - 5 public access
- Not evenly distributed
- Increasing public access encourage economic development through recreation and increased property values

**Accomack County, Virginia**

**Local**

- Boat Ramp
- Fishing Pier
- Harbor
- Park
- Public Access
- Top Waterfront

Title: Accomack County Working Public Access Date: 3/19/2014

### Dredging & Beneficial Use Project Management



**Eastern Shore of Virginia  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Projects**

- 32 Federal project areas
- 27 Non-federal project areas
- 81% need permit work
- ~37% have segments with less than 3ft of water at LT
- HB1091 VRA dredging
- HB1096 VMRC fast-track

### Virginia Waterway Maintenance Fund Grant Program & other new options

- 2018 GA, SB 693 introduced by Senator Lewis
- Modeled after Accomack-Northampton JR signed in fall 2017
- To be administered by the Virginia Port Authority
- Still needs Governor signature &
- Final budget approval




### Hazard Mitigation & Resilience

- Beneficial Use of Spoil
  - Berms, marsh thin-sprays, beach nourishment, etc.
- FEMA Programs:
  - Acquisitions – Current FEMA application has 3 properties included
  - Flood diversion and Storage – County credit with CR program (\$ savings)
- Opportunities to partner with research partners; data collection
- Reduce overall infrastructure at risk to coastal threats




### WAA Potential Objectives of the Authority

- Identify land & waterways
- Research and determine ownerships
- Determine appropriate public use levels
- Determine appropriate beneficial use (dredge spoil) site
- Develop appropriate mechanism for transferring title
- Develop appropriate acquisition and site management plans
- Determine what holdings should be sold to advance the mission of the Authority; and
- Other duties required to fulfill the mission

### Potential Members

- Accomack County
  - Town of Saxs
  - Town of Chincoteague
  - Town of Hallwood
  - Town of Eloxom
  - Town of Parkesley
  - Town of Tangier
  - Town of Accomac
  - Town of Onancock
  - Town of Orley
  - Town of Melfa
  - Town of Keller
  - Town of Wachapreague
  - Town of Painter
- Northampton County
  - Town of Belle Haven
  - Town of Exmore
  - Town of Nassawadox
  - Town of Eastville
  - Town of Cheriton
  - Town of Cape Charles

### Authority Funding Options

- VCZMP Technical Assistance Grant
- NOAA CZM Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program
- VDOT Rural Planning Grant
- Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fund
- General Assembly
- Hunting Registrations
- Commercial Docking Fees
- Farm Leasing / Research and Development
- EDA Technical Assistance Grant



### Next Steps

- Finalizing and Presenting a Joint Resolution to both Counties and any interested incorporated Town
- Request Director(s) appointment
- Hold initial meeting
  - Election of Officers
  - Adoption of By-laws
  - Adoption of Operating Agreement
  - Budget Discussion
  - Work Program Discussion
  - Set Meeting Schedule
  - Request then Review Locality Submitted Sites



**Donating Land for Public Access**

Along Private Land to the Northern Neck-Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority for the Enhancement of Public Water Access in the Northern Neck of Virginia  
Public Benefits & Tax Benefits

- Each locality appoints a director, either a member of the appointing governing body or the chief operating officer. (2 directors each if only 2 participating political subdivisions)
- PDC & WAA develop an Agreement (MOU)

### County Resolution Draft

WHEREAS, The County of \_\_\_\_\_ recognizes that our shorelines are high priority natural areas; and

WHEREAS, The County of \_\_\_\_\_ recognizes that the region needs to provide more public access; and

WHEREAS, The County of \_\_\_\_\_ recognizes that certain public access issues can be addressed regionally; and

WHEREAS, The County of \_\_\_\_\_ recognizes the benefit to the region by providing a process for improving and managing public access across the region;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THIS DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_ 2017 that the \_\_\_\_\_ County Board of Supervisors does hereby declare a need for the Eastern Shore Water Access Authority's existence; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That the County Administrator is authorized and directed to execute the Eastern Shore Water Access Authority Operating Agreement, and is authorized to take all actions necessary to carry out the obligations of \_\_\_\_\_ County under the agreement Eastern Shore Water Access Authority- Ammendment

On a motion by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, the following resolution was adopted by the following vote: \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, The \_\_\_\_\_ County Board of Supervisors has decided to join the Eastern Shore Water Access Authority to identify and preserve public access points to the waters of \_\_\_\_\_ County and the Eastern Shore; and

WHEREAS, The Eastern Shore Water Access Authority Operating Agreement requires that an appointee be made to the authority to represent \_\_\_\_\_ County; and that that appointee be a member of the Board of the county administration; and

WHEREAS, The Board is now prepared to make this appointment;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the \_\_\_\_\_ County Board of Supervisors that \_\_\_\_\_ is hereby appointed as the \_\_\_\_\_ County representative on the Eastern Shore Public Access Authority.

## Questions & Comments