

Socio-economic Impacts of Conserved Land on Virginia's Eastern Shore

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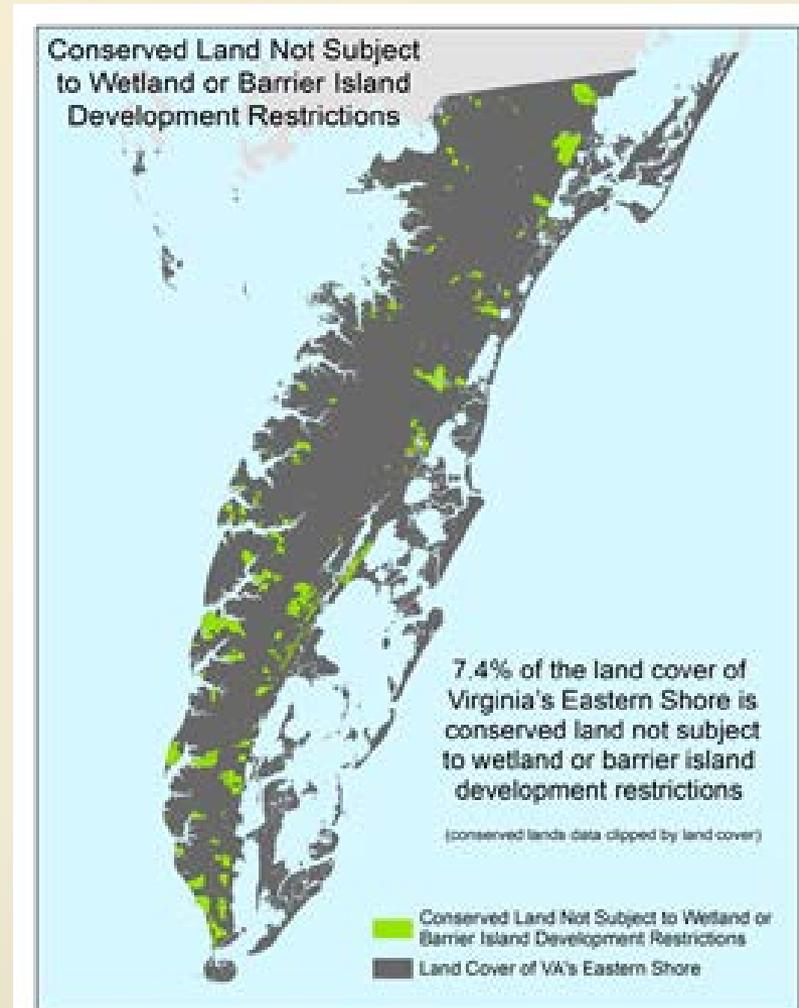
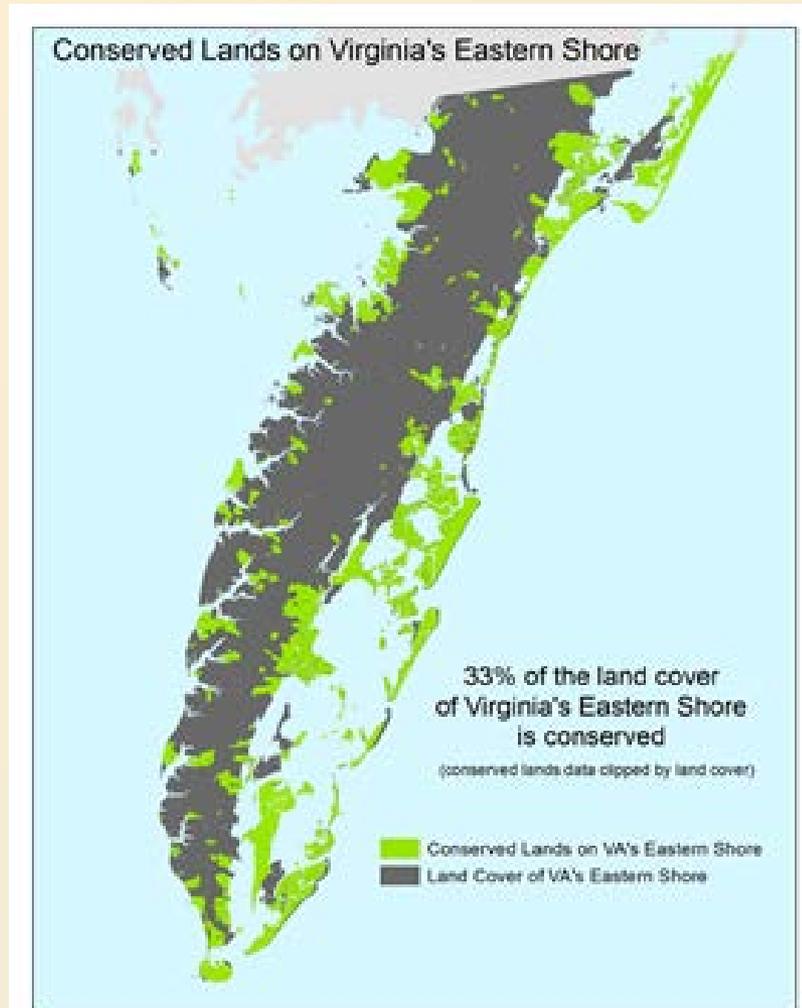
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Assignment

- Conduct research to better understand how land conservation programs and practices in Virginia's Eastern Shore have an effect on local economic conditions
- Conduct an economic and fiscal analysis to measure and quantify the impact of conservation land on the "bottom-line" of the budgets of Accomack and Northampton Counties

Maps of the Study Area



Deliverables/Products

- 1) Describe & Quantify Direct & Foregone Tax Revenues
- 2) Describe & Quantify the Value of Indirect & Induced Benefits
- 3) Document Available Datasets & Land Acquisition Prioritization Tools used by Conservation Entities
- 4) Prepare Technical Report & Outreach Tool
- 5) Determine Overall Net Benefits & Costs of Conserved Land
- 6) Describe & Document Additional Fee Simple or Conservation Acquisition

Initial Literature Review

39 Articles Related to Fiscal and Economic Impacts

- Ecotourism: 8 articles
- Ecosystems: 9 articles
- Forests: 2 articles
- Indigenous Land Rights: 1 article
- Land Conservation: 12 articles
- Wetlands: 5 articles
- Wildlife Habitat: 2 articles

Your assistance is needed to fill in the gaps in the literature!

Revenues by Source (FY 2015)

Accomack County & Northampton County, Virginia

Revenues	Accomack County	Northampton County
General Property Taxes	\$ 21,171,115	\$ 16,682,266
Other Local Taxes	\$ 7,431,369	\$ 2,506,479
Permits, Fees, and Licenses	\$ 390,542	\$ 109,011
Fines and Forfeitures	\$ 65,622	\$ 510,887
Use of Money & Property	\$ 336,728	\$ 12,161
Charges for Services	\$ 406,926	\$ 945,306
Miscellaneous	\$ 178,322	\$ 110,664
Recovered Costs	\$ 323,467	\$ 45,940
Intergovernmental	\$ 7,322,417	\$ 3,754,758
Total	\$37,626,508	\$24,677,472

Source: Accomack County. Comprehensive Annual Financial Report Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015., Northampton County. Comprehensive Annual Financial Report Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015.

Public Services (FY 2015)

Accomack County & Northampton County, Virginia

Expenditures	Accomack County	Northampton County
General Government Administration	\$ 3,539,604	\$ 1,961,308
Judicial Administration	\$ 1,396,254	\$ 648,852
Public Safety	\$ 6,235,310	\$ 4,508,551
Public Works	\$ 3,686,051	\$ 2,120,556
Health and Welfare	\$ 794,033	\$ 596,513
Education	\$16,709,372	\$ 8,148,489
Parks, Recreation, and Cultural	\$ 880,044	\$ 338,095
Community Development	\$ 1,102,488	\$ 1,175,343
Debt Service	\$ 768,016	\$ 173,496
Total	\$ 35,111,172	\$19,671,203
Revenues over (under) Expenditures	\$ 2,515,336	\$ 5,006,269

Source: Accomack County. Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015.,
Northampton County. Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2015.

Land-Use Classifications

Residential

- Single-Family Houses
- Town Houses
- Multi-Family Units
 - *For-Lease*
 - *For-Sale*
- Vacation and Second Homes
- Other

Non-Residential

- Retail
- Office
- Industrial
- Hospitality and Tourism
- Government (Federal, State, Local)
- Non-Profits (Tax-exempt)
- Agricultural
- Conserved Lands
- Other

Next Steps

- Interview local department heads in Accomack and Northampton Counties to determine how revenues are generated by source and how public services are provided to residents, workers, visitors, and tourists
- Interview other stakeholders such as:
 - Members of the Southern Tip Partnership
 - Virginia Coastal Partners Audience Today
 - Federal and State Government Agencies
 - Other Land Conservation Entities
- Other groups recommended by today's audience

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