



Virginia Coastal Zone MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Coastal Policy Team **Final Meeting Notes**

Monday, September 17, 2012

Location: DEQ Central Office, 619 E. Main Street, Richmond VA

Attendees:

Glen Askins-DGIF	Stuart McKenzie-NNPDC
April Bahen-VA CZM	Nick Meade-VA CZM
Sharon Baxter-DEQ	Shep Moon-VA CZM
Mark Bittner-Crater PDC	Chip Neikirk-VMRC
Chris Bruce-TNC	Tony Noreika-DOF
Kevin Byrnes-GWRC	Nina O'Malley-DEQ
Melanie Davenport-DEQ	Margaret Pizer-VA Sea Grant
Sandra Erdle-CBNERR	Beth Polak-VA CZM
Laura Grape-NVRC	Will Shuart-VCU
Tracey Harmon-VDOT	Mark Slaughter-DEM
Michelle Henicheck-DEQ	Curt Smith-ANPDC
Ellie Irons-DEQ	Tom Smith-DCR
Todd Janeski-VCU	Sarah Stewart-RRPDC
Ken Jurman-DMME	Suzan van Krutchen-NVRC
Janet Krenn-VA Sea Grant	Lyle Varnell-VIMS
John Kuriawa-NOAA	Tony Watkinson-VMRC
Lewie Lawrence-MPPDC	Jim Wesson-VMRC
Pam Mason-VIMS	David Whitehurst-DGIF
Ben McFarlane-HRPDC	Joanna Wilson-DHR
Laura McKay-VA CZM	Virginia Witmer-VA CZM

10:00 Update on Section 312 CZM Program Evaluation Process (McKay/Kuriawa)

John Kuriawa compared and contrasted the historic evaluation model and proposed evaluation model for 312 evaluations. The new 312 evaluation method will:

- Reduce the number and duration of site visits
- Have more teleconferencing instead of face-to-face visits
- Have a shorter review time for evaluation documents
- Have only about 5-10 pages of evaluation per state

Virginia may be evaluated in 2015 or 2016.

312 Metrics will:

- Strengthen accountability in the 312 evaluation process
- Measure effectiveness in meeting the three priority goals/objectives chosen by the state
- Be a response to the General Accounting Office audit report recommendation

Laura McKay briefly presented the three Virginia 312 metrics: eelgrass acreage, bay scallop population, and local shoreline management plan development by localities.

10:15 Demo of new version of Coastal GEMS (Meade/Shuart)

Nick Meade explained that Coastal GEMS is a combination of information from governmental agencies, non-profits, academic institutions, and local governments fused into a coastal data portal. The official Version 3 of Coastal GEMS will be rolled out next month. The prototype web address is gis.vcu.edu/gems3. Base maps of 2002, 2007, and 2011 will be available in January. LiDAR incorporation into GEMS will be considered.

New features:

- Better cartography
- New base maps
- Adjustable map transparency

New tools:

- Base map swipe tool
- Mark up tools
- Improved custom map printing tools

Better accessibility:

- Cross-browser compatibility
- No plug-ins necessary
- Support for mobile devices

A live demo was provided by Will Shuart of VCU.

10:35 Update on ocean planning

- *Mid-Atlantic Regional Planning Body; November Regional Stakeholder Workshop; Marine Debris Summit Feb 27-28 (McKay):* The Virginia Ocean Planning Kick-off meeting was held June 28. The Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Planning Body is being set up and the two representative recommendations from Virginia, Jack Travelstead and Maureen Matsen have been received by the Governor. Laura McKay will be supporting them. A Regional Ocean Stakeholder workshop is set for November 27-28 at George Mason University. The Marine Debris Summit will be on February 27-28, 2013. A Marine Debris Plan will be developed based on the outcomes of this workshop to support the VA CZM 309 strategy. Recreational Use workshops were held July 11-12 on the Eastern Shore. 20 different recreational uses were mapped.
- *Demo of new MARCO portal (Chris Bruce, TNC contractor on "Monmouth Team"):* Chris provided a live demo of the MARCO portal. Tuesday, September 18, 2012 will be a soft roll out of the MARCO portal.
- *Demo of E-beam technology for participatory GIS (Meade/Hayden):* Nick Meade discussed challenges in collecting marine recreational use data and how the E-beam participatory GIS mapping method can overcome challenges. At the Recreational Use workshop held on July 11-12, 2012 draft maps were created of 20 recreational uses. Nick Hayden from NOAA's Marine Protected Areas center in California shared some of the draft maps created from the workshop.

The next step will be to validate maps with stakeholders who attended the workshop as well as key stakeholders who were unable to attend. Hopefully the maps will be finalized by late winter 2013. Nick Meade provided a live demo of the E-beam technology.

11:15 Review of plans for December 5-6 Coastal Partners Workshop (McKay)

The agenda for the VA CZM Coastal Partners' Workshop was discussed. The proposed theme is "Engaging the Public in Coastal Management." Fracking, uranium mining, the War of 1812, local government land use authority over energy resource development, modeling for storm surge, and evacuation impacts were all discussed as possible topics to be considered for the workshop. If engaging the public remains the workshop theme, John Kuriawa suggested that VA CZM think of a more specific goal and that a methodology or document come out of the conference on the topic. A number of PDCs concurred that a best practices, lessons learned, or success story document could be an outcome of the conference. It was also acknowledged that we need to discuss how to manage the public's involvement and to have people representing the public telling us how to effectively engage them. It was decided that VA CZM will reconsider who needs to be engaged for each session on the agenda. Another suggestion was that for each session a discussion could ensue that focuses on "next steps" that VA CZM could undertake – this would create a useful "outcome" of the workshop as well.

11:45 Agency Updates

- Sea Grant : 3 projects are underway:
 - The Future Coast project (<http://www.futurecoast.info/>) involving Mid-Atlantic Sea Grant and Mid-Atlantic CZM programs on sea level rise.
 - VASG Coastal Community Adaptation Initiative (CCAI) projects on sea level rise adaptation planning. If PDCs are interested in working on a project, contact Susan Park. Melissa Keyword, graduate student coordinator for one of the CCAI projects, was awarded NOAA's Walter B. Jones Award for Excellence in Coastal and Ocean Resource Management.
 - The Hampton Roads Adaptation Forum, which has its first Forum meeting on October 30.

- CBNERRVA: with VA CZM, holding a Blue Green Infrastructure workshop on September 27.

- DGIF:
 - The city of Virginia Beach received funds to conserve the Pleasure House Point land.
 - Closing on 480 acres on the Eastern Shore soon.
 - Working with the agriculture industry to stop the spread of feral hogs.
 - Holding a series of stakeholder workshops on owning dangerous animals.
 - Bird banding at Kiptopeke State Park has been suspended for the near future.

- DCR :
 - Hosting the annual Natural Areas Conference on October 9-11, 2012.
 - Worked with the Flora of Virginia project to write a manual/guidebook on the native species in Virginia. It will available the beginning of December for \$79.00.

- VA CZM: The annual Eastern Shore Birding and Wildlife Festival with David Sibley will be October 5-7, 2012.

1:00 Presentation from and discussion with Suzan van Krutchten of Holland who is visiting Northern Virginia Regional Commission to share knowledge on climate adaptation

Suzan showed a map of the Dutch Delta that would be 59% flooded with no levees or dykes. There could be 100-200,000 deaths from this flooding in the worst case scenario. 1 billion Euros a year will be invested to protect 1-4 billion Euros in the economy. Another problem that the Netherlands are facing is that their land is also subsiding. Suzan:

- Showed the responsibilities and tasks of the provinces and the instruments that are used by the Dutch
- Discussed who works on Water Projects
- Talked about the “sand motor” which provides a large amount of sand to an area and lets natural processes spread it out and erode it over time
- Described how the shore levee did not meet country standards anymore and what reinforcements were provided
- Provided other examples of techniques used by the Dutch to work with climate and spatial planning
- Provided conclusions

2:00 Update from PDCs on FY11 Competitive Grants

- Coastal Resiliency: Adapting to Climate Change (Ben McFarlane, HRPDC)
HRPDC’s third-year report was approved for publication and distribution. The focus is now more on recurrent flooding, rather than sea level rise. The current grant will help HRPDC stay up to date and distill information in order to be more public friendly. There is now a web site that helps the public with environmental questions: askhrgreen.org. HRPDC is working on getting sea level rise into localities’ comprehensive plans.
- Water Quality Policy Analyses for Nutrient Reduction Goals (Ben McFarlane, HRPDC)
HRPDC contracted with Wetlands Watch to evaluate the use of BMPs on private lands and how to track them so that localities get TMDL-WIP credit. HRPDC also looked at how localities could use redevelopment strategies to meet nutrient reduction goals, and projected the amount of land available for redevelopment.
- Native Plant Social Marketing Campaign (Laura Grape, NVRC)
NVRC discovered that yards and residential gardens make up much of the grey areas in Northern Virginia. NVRC has found that people don’t know where to find native plants and don’t know how to identify native plants at retail establishments. In addition, many of the people at the retail establishments are not knowledgeable enough to provide that information to consumers. Therefore, NVRC will be conducting training for the retail workers. NVRC will also be developing common messages and promotional materials similar to the Eastern Shore Natives campaign (i.e. the plant tags for the native plants and a guide book for Northern Virginia). NVRC will also do a survey to find out what questions are being asked by the public. The market research will be done this fall. Materials will be distributed next winter, and the social marketing campaign will be started in the spring.
- Rural Chesapeake Bay/Seaside of VA Working Waterfront Coalition (Lewie Lawrence, MPPDC)
MPPDC coupled this grant to the VA CZM Section 309 Strategy. MPPDC will inventory existing working waterfronts and help define working waterfronts. MPPDC will talk with working waterfront owners

about how to keep their industry viable in the future. MPPDC will link their work with the regional and national Working Waterfronts coalition work.

- Chapel Island Public Access Project (Sarah Stewart, RRPDC)
RRPDC will upgrade the trails on Chapel Island in the City of Richmond, install interpretive signage and construct a canoe/kayak launch. RRPDC is working to get the necessary permits and discussing how to best manage the volunteers for the construction process. The trails will also be in the Riverfront Plan and connect to the Colonial Bicycle Pathway.

2:50 Presentation of FY12 PDC Competitive Grants

- Seaside Camping Platforms (Smith, AN PDC)
ANPDC is focusing on an implementation plan for constructing camping platforms along the Seaside Water Trail. The project will evaluate where to site floating camping platforms along the trail and how to build them in a high energy environment. The design must consider hurricanes, permitting, and aquaculturists. There will ideally be 3-5 platforms.
- Norfolk Canoe/Kayak Launch (McFarlane, HR PDC)
This project will include habitat restoration and a canoe and kayak launch on the Lafayette River. It will be ADA accessible.
- Suffolk Canoe/Kayak Launch (McBride, HR PDC)
This project will consist of a floating dock and canoe and kayak launch at Constance Wharf Park, with access to the Nansemond River.
- Living Shoreline Revolving Loan Program (Lawrence, MP PDC)
MPPDC is trying to make it easier for private citizens to put in living shorelines on their property by offering revolving loans that would be less expensive than bank loans. MPPDC is investigating how much differential it would take to get the public to use public money loans as opposed to traditional bank loans, as well as how other entities involved with living shorelines development are attempting revolving loan programs.
- Rural Working Waterfront Coalition & Summit (Lawrence, MP PDC)
The Economic Development Administration is partnering with localities, including MPPDC, to work on working waterfronts. MPPDC will hold a symposium in late spring on working waterfronts. The goal is to bring working waterfront owners to the summit to get their buy in of efforts to preserve their working waterfronts.