

“Working Waterways & Waterfronts- Management Tools to Maintain Access”

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**Virginia Coastal Partners Workshop. Portsmouth,
Virginia.**



“Norfolk Summit” Shared local, state, and national-level initiatives that are addressing water access



Questions?

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Or visit the conference Web site:
www.wateraccess2007.com

Conference Sponsors:



Sea Grant Communications
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Working Waterways and Waterfronts 2007

A National Symposium
on Water Access

May 9-11, 2007

Sheraton Norfolk Waterside
Norfolk, VA



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National Marine Manufacturers Association



NATIONAL FISHERIES INSTITUTE



RECREATIONAL BOATING & FISHING FOUNDATION



SPORT FISHING & BOATING PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL



About the Symposium

- This symposium educated attendees about local, state, and national-level initiatives that address water access and develop management approaches to the access dilemma.



Working Waterways & Waterfronts 2007

Symposium

May 9-11, 2007

Norfolk, Virginia

Audience

180 Coastal managers and planners, public officials, resource agency staff, water-dependent industries (fishing, marinas, boat yards, etc.), non-government organizations, the legal profession, and national, state, and local government legislative staff.



Coalition Solutions to address Problem

- A nationwide commitment has been struck to act together and to make public access a high priority;
- A national agenda for action, including legislative initiatives, as well as ideas for state policy is being finalized;



A coalition that will shepherd the strategic goals and actions was created at summit on water access held in Norfolk

- Tools, or a set of approaches to specific situations are being shared and built upon;
- A structure for communicating among these diverse constituencies about these issues has been developed;



Learn More

- <http://www.wateraccess2007.com>
- Stay tuned as the program continues to take shape.



“Working Waterfront Preservation Act of 2005.” Senate Bill 1723

■ Federal Legislation

- September 2005, Senator Susan Collins (ME) introduced 1st such bill co-sponsored by Senators Edward Kennedy (MA), John Kerry (MA), Trent Lott (MS), Jack Reed (RI), and Olympia Snowe (ME), was referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. No major action has been taken on S. 1723 since then.



Bill sought to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act

- establish a fund for the acquisition of waterfront property by state and local governments, nonprofit organizations, and fishing cooperatives to provide access for **commercial fishing and aquaculture** industries. It would appropriate \$50 million to fund eligible projects



Jo Ann Davis (Va.) Companion House Bill H. R. 2565 in 2007

.....
(Original Signature of Member)

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to establish a grant program to ensure waterfront access for commercial fishermen, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to establish a grant program to ensure waterfront access for commercial fishermen, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled.*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

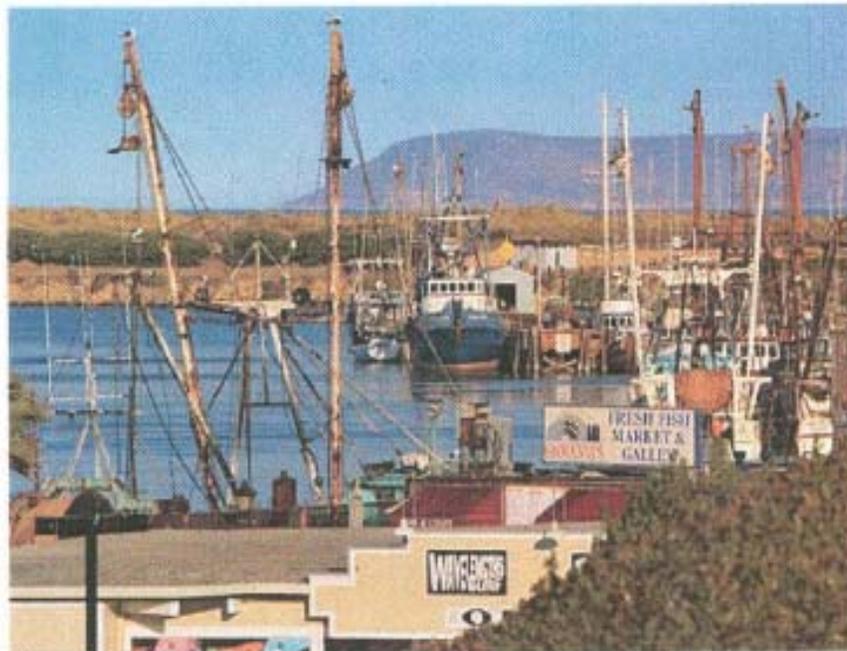
4 This Act may be cited as the “Working Waterfront
5 Preservation Act of 2007”.



More Recently Broadened HR 3223-Allen & Capps

Keep Our Waterfronts Working!

Cosponsor H.R. 3223, the Keep Our Waterfronts Working Act of 2007



The Keep Our Waterfronts Working Act H.R. 3223

Designed as an amendment to the Coastal
Zone Management Act

Two major components: planning grants
and implementation grants



H.R. 3223: The Keep Our Waterfronts Working Act

1. Planning Grants

Coastal States may apply for planning grants to develop strategic and prioritized plans for the preservation, expansion, and improvement of working waterfronts

- Where is working waterfront present and absent, and where is it under threat of conversion to other uses?
- What is the economic, social, and cultural value of working waterfront to the coastal state?
- What is the current availability and potential for expansion of public access to coastal waters in working waterfront areas?



H.R. 3223: The Keep Our Waterfronts Working Act

2. Implementation Grants

Once planning grants are approved, states will be eligible to apply through an expedited process for federal matching grants to implement their Working Waterfront Plans.

Allowed Uses

- Acquisition of working waterfront or interest in working waterfront.
- Improvements to working waterfront

Requirements

- Working Waterfront Covenants
- Match of at least 25%
- Public access expansion or improvement



H.R. 3223: The Keep Our Waterfronts Working Act

Bill Status

- Introduced in July
- Under consideration by the House Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Oceans
- Positive feedback from the Committee and from NOAA
- Working to recruit cosponsors



Eligibility

- To become eligible for the grant program, a coastal state would develop a comprehensive Working Waterfront Plan. States with an approved Working Waterfront Plan would become eligible to apply for Working Waterfront matching grants under an expedited funding process.



Broader and Different Procedure

“SEC. 320. WORKING WATERFRONT GRANT PROGRAM.

“(a) FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.—

“(1) The Congress finds the following:

“(A) Water-dependent commercial activities are the economic and cultural heart of many coastal communities. These activities include commercial fishing, recreational fishing, tourism, aquaculture, boat-building, transportation, and many other water-dependent businesses.

“(B) Water-dependent commercial activities depend on coastal access in the form of docks, wharfs, lifts, wet and dry marinas, boat ramps, boat hauling, repair, and construction facilities, commercial fishing facilities, and other support structures on, over, or adjacent to navigable bodies of water.



Different Approach in CZMA

- Would likely be implemented in a way modeled after the “Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program” (“CELCP”)



Existing Procedures

- Done through state network of coastal programs.
- *<http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/land/media/CELCPfinal02Guidelines.pdf>*



Federal CZM Act Reauthorization

- Authorization expired in 1999
- Has been operating on original authorization from 1972
- Water Access now a national priority
- Reauthorization is being pushed now by NMMA, BOAT US and other stakeholder orgs.



Other local tools being used

- Working Waterfront Retention Measures Many and varied
- but can be summarized as:
 1. Legislative
 2. Regulatory
 3. Comprehensive Measures



Keep Our Waterfronts Working! Questions?



www.wateraccess2007.com

New environmental educator administrator ?



■ Or this?

