



Coastal Policy Team Meeting Summary

January 30, 2024

14th Floor Training Room, 1111 East Main Street, Richmond, VA

Microsoft Teams option was also made available.

Welcome & Brief Introductions

Specific Partner & Project Updates

- Virginia Ocean Planning and Related Projects: CZM Program Manager Ryan Green provided an update on the Virginia Ocean Planning process describing the role that States have in leading ocean plan development following a 2018 executive order that deprioritized regional planning bodies and suggested state lead planning processes. Virginia Ocean Plan development is part of the current (FY21-25) Section 309 Ocean Resources Strategy. Draft goals include:

Virginia Ocean Plan - Draft Goals

1. Promote a sustainable and growing "blue economy".
2. Document and characterize existing/emerging ocean uses and the existing policies/plans that relate to them.
3. Minimize/mitigate conflicts between existing and emerging ocean uses, and minimize/mitigate impacts to ocean habitat, marine life, and ecosystem functions.
4. Increase resilience of ocean uses, ocean habitat, and marine life to a changing ocean.
5. Develop processes for plan implementation, plan maintenance/updates, ongoing stakeholder collaboration, and conflict resolution.

With the University of Virginia Institute for Engagement and Negotiation (UVA-IEN) supporting CZM, work to organize workgroups to formalize the input process is underway. A Steering Committee will function as the guiding body to review the direction of the plan and make recommendations. Most of the work this year will take place in the workgroups and Steering Committee. A public input session will be held likely in summer 2024. A strawman of the Plan will be prepared to get reactions from stakeholders before finalizing it. Ocean Plan CZM-Funded Tasks include:

- FY23 Task 92.01 – VMRC, Stranding Response MOU
 - Working with VMRC, DWR, and the Virginia Aquarium to make sure the roles are defined when a marine mammal strands.
 - The goal is to have a clarified MOU.
 - Hoping to discuss further with DCR for how to use their land for stranded marine mammals.
- FY23 Task 92.02 – VCU, Ocean Fisheries Stakeholder Coordination
 - Working to get involvement of fisheries in work on the ocean, has been challenging to engage stakeholders with limited availability and drastically different work schedules.
 - This task works to gain trust and input from fisheries stakeholders.
 - VMRC has built capacity to support this role too, Rachael Peabody works directly with the Commissioner's Office.
 - Todd Janeski (VCU), the fisheries stakeholder liaison, added how Virginia is involved in regional efforts like the regional fisheries mitigation/compensation work.
- FY23 Task 92.03 – VCU, Ocean Fisheries data development
 - New data are constantly being made available from the federal agencies but are often hard to obtain.
 - The more information we have on the economic value of Virginia's fisheries the more effective we can be advocating for them in policy decisions.

- Rachael Peabody (VMRC) added, because of CZM funding, VIMS now has an offshore wind fisheries study program.
- FY22 Task 92.03 – DWR, Marine Mammals/Sea Turtle conservation plan
 - Both plans are in some form of draft at this point
 - There was a 2-day workshop in the Fall to bring together partners to learn about marine mammals, activities impacting them, and discuss possible solutions.
 - This relates to the stranding response MOU task above, pulling lessons learned.
 - The goal is to have direct activities in these conservation plans and list considerations in the Plan.
- DCR Office of Resilience Planning Updates

Matt Dallon (DCR) gave updates on the outcomes of the Resilience Coordination Working Group, which produced 23 recommendations with no objections from the 39 stakeholder groups in the working group.

- Those recommendations are currently working their way through various channels including legislative proposals.
- The main recommendation is that the Chief Resilience Officer needs funding and dedicated staff in an office above the secretaries with a direct line to the Governor. There are currently bills in both houses moving this recommendation forward.

Matt then shared an overview of work going on to update the Virginia Coastal Resilience Master Plan (VCRMP).

- This includes updates to flood hazards including the addition of pluvial and riverine flooding.
- An update to the inventory of projects, initiatives, and funding is ongoing and partners were asked to share their projects in the Coastal Resilience Web Explorer tool.
- If groups need assistance uploading projects into the tool, the Office of Resilience Planning can help.
- Additional work on master plan updates is occurring in quarterly TAC and subcommittee meetings.
- The benefit of participating in the VCRMP is that efforts can be deconflicted and economies of scale identified.
- Curt Smith (MPPDC) noted that the display of programs on the Coastal Resilience Web Explorer can obscure the scale of projects they are completing. For example, MPPDC's program shows up as one dot on the map, but the program contains approximately 150 separate projects. Programs that do work on private property are displayed as programs not projects. Only projects on public lands are shown in the tool.
- Next Steps: *All groups working on resilience projects are encouraged to enter them into the Coastal Resilience Web Explorer Tool. If they need assistance, they can contact the DCR Office of Resilience Planning.*

- CZM Resilience Project Updates (Focal Area and PSM)

- i) FY23 Task 71 – VIMS, Shoreline Resilience Data

In partnership with NNPDC, this project aims to:

- Update the shoreline inventory with machine learning-based method.
- Upgrade the shoreline management model, which identifies BMPs and areas where living shorelines are recommended.
- Map marsh migration corridors to assist with shoreline management decisions.
- Develop a web app for community scientists to share information to more accurately and efficiently maintain the shoreline inventory.
- This project will focus on outer coastal plain localities.

- ii) FY 23 Task 72 – DCR, Resilience Planning for Protected Lands

- Joe Webber (DCR) gave an update on this project, which will build upon the strategic plan that was developed through the last Resilience Focal Area project.
- This project will be carried out by estimating the resilience contributions of parcels adjacent to or nearby all protected lands in the Virginia coastal zone that both support Natural Heritage resources and are managed at least for general natural resource conservation.
- There are 1,454 occurrences of Natural Heritage resources on conserved lands in the coastal zone and of those, only 408 are on Natural Area Preserves. So many are not on sites managed for conservation of biodiversity.
- During Year 1, the key focus of the project will be to further evaluate and expand on Resilience Areas and Resilience Tracts for natural area preserves and other strategically important protected lands in the coastal zone.
 - Resilience tracts are parcels adjacent to existing natural area preserves that have a foreseeable impact on the longevity, persistence, and manageability of the preserve and their protected resources.
 - Resilience Areas are parcels known to support one or more occurrences of Natural heritage Resources classified as essential.
- Year 2 will look at a biological inventory of natural heritage resources on resilience areas and resilience tracts, and year 3 will provide conservation targeting for adding resilience for natural heritage resources on protected lands.
- The project is delayed while the Spatial Ecologist position is vacant. They anticipate filling it in February/March.

iii) **FY23 Task 73 – DOE, Aggregate Resource Mapping**

David Hawkins (DOE) gave an update on this project, which was originally scoped for a 1-year project. Study area is the Middle Peninsula. The project aims to identify aggregate resource data (sand, gravel, etc.) since there is an area of limited aggregate supply for resilience projects (e.g., road elevating, living shorelines, etc.). Goals include: a) gathering data to inform land-use planning, b) infrastructure and coastal resilience applications, and c) evaluating temporal changes that impact prioritization needs. The project team is about 20% done with Year 1 tasks and considering continuing work for Years 2 and 3. Since no scope has been finalized, CZM and DOE are open to feedback on the following options:

- **Scenario 1** is to expand the same scope of work to another PDC.
- **Scenario 2** is to evaluate archived dredged sediments from high-priority channels on the Middle Peninsula.
- **Scenario 3** is to identify offshore sand bodies and stratigraphy, develop data to inform offshore dredge material placement, and develop data to inform potential offshore sand borrow source areas.
 - A way to focus this scenario is to do it in specific channels where work bottom disturbances are ongoing and bottom land lease conflicts are already settled.
 - Lewie Lawrence (MPPDC) stated that they will be dredging this material, so this option would be nice to start thinking about how to make this into something beneficial for aggregate use.
 - BOEM is interested in offshore exploration for precious metals. VE is Looking at heavy mineral sands offshore with BOEM. There has been historical sampling done in state ocean waters.
 - Rachael Peabody (VMRC) stated that if this can be related to the Beneficial reuse guidance, there is support. She agrees that we should be working in an area where dredging will be occurring but with 25% looking towards the future (Scenario 1).

- Rob Evans (DCR) asked how well understood is the sediment movement? David Hawkins replied that we have modeling, but the data is poor compared to that which is on the outer continental shelf.
- Donna Milligan (VIMS) stated that they are working with NNPDC to develop data, so they aren't going to have the data that MMPDC has, but they are interested in getting there.
- Kellen Singleton (ANPDC) noted that dredging is a priority at ANPDC, so they would be interested in this. Finding a use for the materials is a big priority.
- John Kuriawa (NOAA) noted that some of this work cannot be funded by Section 306 funds because it involves land disturbance to gather data.
- Next Steps: Ryan Green (CZM) requested that if CPT members are interested in this work, they should reach out to CZM to indicate their interest in working on this. CZM will also share David's PPRT with the CPT.

iv) FY 23 PSM - Designing Living Shorelines for New Resilience Reg. Standards

Mary-Carson Stiff (Wetlands Watch) gave an overview of this project, which is working to establish a technical resource document that will be a look book example of living shorelines (both hybrid and general permit) that are considering sea level rise. They are creating the technical document through a workgroup that met first on Nov 30, with Feb 29 and May 30 being the next two meetings. In the first meeting the workgroup talked about the new resilient regulatory standards that require living shorelines to include sea level rise conditions. The second meeting will look at an outline of the technical document and discuss how to highlight the example projects. Currently the project team is in the information gathering phase:

- Working with local government partners to identify these adaptable living shoreline projects that came through their locale.
- Workgroup members are identifying example adaptable living shoreline projects that they worked on.
- Wetlands Watch welcome example projects that CPT members and partners know of.

Next, they'll be working with Greenfin Design Studios to design the technical document. They're working to hire a contractor (expected to be a coastal engineer) to review the document to make sure it is consistent with design standards. The last component of this project is to develop an outreach campaign to help advertise this resource.

- Mark Luckenbach (VIMS) asked a question – where is the technical document going to live? Mary-Carson responded that the workgroup members are identifying this, but CZM will host it by virtual of posting all final products on their website. Mark indicated a hope that the resource be somewhere that is easily accessible.

Next Steps: Partners are encouraged to share examples of living shorelines that are designed to adapt to climate change with Wetlands Watch (mc.stiff@wetlandswatch.org)

NOAA OCM updates

The new grants management database is not improving the process, so expect delays. NOAA's National CZM Strategic Plan was from 2018-2023 so the next plan is under development. Overarching goals not going to change much:

- Resilient communities
- Restoring/protecting ecosystems
- Increasing coordination and collaboration
- DEIJ and Tribal engagement (new emphasis)

Next Steps: *CPT members can give feedback on the strategic plan to CZM.*

BIL updates

Lucas Manweiler (Virginia CZM) gave an update on Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funded work.

- FY23 projects are moving forward smoothly.
 - 80 acres of seagrass restoration (20 over anticipated) by VIMS
 - Upper Mattaponi Indian Tribe acquired ancestral lands
- FY24
 - Racheal Peabody (VMRC) gave an update on the Coastal Harmony proposal.
 - This is a large application for a range of living shorelines including oyster restoration. The goal is for VMRC to help with these shovel-ready projects.
 - 10 restoration sites in total
 - Rob Evans (DCR) gave an update on a proposal for work in the Western end of the City of Suffolk that aims to buy 13 contiguous parcels (1,900 acres).
 - These are high priority conservation lands.
 - One of the largest contiguous sections of land not conserved in the area.
 - The project will also restore upland forest to long leaf pine, which is known to be the most resilient type of upland forest for the area.
 - This project may potentially provide public access in a public access desert.
 - Will help implement DWR's state wildlife corridor plan and preserve the aquatic integrity of the Chowan River watershed.
 - Working to engage with all of the tribes who have ancestral lands in the area.
 - CZM should be hearing back from NOAA if they are selected for funding in the spring.
- FY25 projects will be solicited this summer.
 - Anticipated Notice of Funding timeline probably around late spring of 2024 with Letters of Intent due to CZM likely in mid-July.
- BIL Capacity funding
 - The Virginia Ecological Value Assessment (VEVA) model being updated.
 - Once the VEVA model is updated, Lucas will be reconvening the CELP workgroup to update the CELP plan.
 - There are \$25k remaining in capacity funding, so CZM is looking to fund another capacity building project.
 - This will likely be a project hosted on Coastal GEMS that would be data that could support coastal zone efforts.

IRA Capacity Updates

- NOAA anticipates that the review of IRA capacity building proposals should be complete by April 1st.
- Ryan Green provided updates on the plans for the components of that IRA capacity building proposal.
 - CZM Coastal Planner Position
 - Looking for 4.5-year position with focus on supporting CZM network
 - Developing job description for summer hire
 - Task in proposal include: Liaison with DCR ORP, DEQ programs, and VMRC, providing support to CZM related projects.
 - If there are other items that haven't been possible in the past let CZM know.
 - If needs come up after the hire, CZM will be responsive to the need, although it's helpful to know at this point.
 - CZM Network Virginia Sea Grant (VASG) Commonwealth Fellowship
 - Funding for 3 Fellows.
 - CZM will develop guidance on the request process.
 - Discuss proposals at Fall CPT meeting.
 - We can spread out our requests over time.

- For example 1 next year, 2 the year after that.
- Lewie Lawrence (MPPDC) asked a question – what would be the fellow’s employee status? Paycheck from VIMS or state agency? This is important for injury liability reasons. *With Commonwealth Fellows, they work for a state agency but Sea Grant pays them, so they will likely be classified as William & Mary employees. However, this needs to be confirmed.*

CPT Breaks for Lunch

DEQ Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG)

Tom Ballou of the DEQ Air Program spoke about an opportunity for a very large grant application that partners could be a part of.

- DEQ received a \$3M planning Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) to develop a Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP).
- The PCAP is to contain ready to implement high impact projects to reduce green house gasses
 - The PCAP is key to the competitive implementation grants.
 - So they are working to identify possible mitigation projects for the state PCAP.
- Meanwhile, EPA is saying that multi-state collaborative projects are more competitive.
- NC is asking VA to join for a natural carbon sequestration strategies project with Maryland and South Carolina.
 - This proposal would secure \$50 million for each state plus a regional pool of another \$200M.
 - All projects must serve two high level measures – Coastal habitats and forestry carbon capture preservation/enhancement.
 - This money would have to be spent in 5 years.
- If we are to go this way (nothing is final/certain) what do, we prefer?
 - State agency implementation?
 - Third-party implementation (TNC and/or others)?
 - *Also likely a combination of both
- CPT members asked questions.
 - Dave Norris (DWR) stated that DWR is the largest land holder in the state and can think of 3 projects that would fit this. Are you looking for reforestation or wetland restoration?
 - Tom said they are looking for all the above.
 - Is acquisition eligible?
 - Tom said that it hasn’t been ruled out.
 - How shovel ready does shovel ready have to be?
 - Tom said they are waiting for guidance on that.
 - Can these funds be spent on private property?
 - Tom was not sure, but so far, they’ve mostly talked about projects on public lands.
 - If it is allowed on private property, something that Virginia has is regional municipal entities able to provide funding to private property projects.
 - Pam Mason (VIMS) noted that there’s a recent publication about wetland crediting in Texas and the Chesapeake Bay Program is going to release a report on that soon that could help crosswalk Bay credits for wetlands and carbon credits.
- The DEQ Air Program is looking to hear about projects that are shovel ready but also have details enough to calculate GHG reductions.
- Timeline
 - PCAP must be done by March 1 and the application is due April 1
 - All they need for the application is examples of projects, not necessarily a laundry list of all projects.

Next Steps: CPT members are to send project ideas to [Will Isenberg](#) (CZM). CZM to Distribute 3-pager from North Carolina on this interstate initiative.

FY 23 Funding Update/Discussion

Ryan shared that CZM is reprogramming Task 101 funds (\$91k) since CZM will not do an update to the grants database this year. Instead...

- \$31k will go to UVA Elizabeth Andrews for policy/legal research to address questions about expenditure of federal funds on shoreline projects that benefit the public trust but occur on private lands (i.e., above mean low water). This was a priority identified at the last CPT meeting but didn't score high enough for IRA non-competitive funding.
 - There was no input from CPT members on the scoped questions for this research.
- CBSM Campaign
 - Will Isenberg (Virginia CZM) explained how the remaining \$60k of the FY23 funds will be used to build and ramp up the Community-Based Social Marketing (CBSM) pilot campaign for Living Shorelines that will be implemented by Friends of the Rappahannock.

FY24 Funding Update/Discussion

Ryan Green (CZM) reviewed the CZM Project List and 306 funding availability/proposals & 309 funding availability/proposals. For FY24, DEQ's Indirect Cost Rate increased from 28.5% to 38.5% and now applies to now both Personnel and Fringe (it'd previously only applied to Personnel). This means that approximately \$175k less is available for FY24 Section 306 projects. Taking this into account, currently \$215k is available for FY24 Section 306 projects.

- Potential projects for Section 306 funds:
 - CBSM Campaign
 - Will Isenberg (Virginia CZM) explained that Year 2 of this project for FY24 would involve campaign implementation.
 - Since this is a CBSM campaign pilot, an experimental design will be implemented with one watershed in the Rappahannock River Basin being the control watershed and another being the treatment watershed. Both watersheds have existing campaigns in place, and the control watershed will continue existing levels of engagement. On the contrary, the treatment watershed will continue the existing levels of engagement with the CBSM elements stacked on top of it. Campaign success will be measured by several variables including the change in baseline number of living shorelines and buffer vegetation planted.
 - Outputs from this second year of work include:
 - Campaign materials in an editable Canva account,
 - Report on outreach efforts,
 - A campaign strategy,
 - A report evaluating the pilot campaign's success.
 - The goal is for this project to be something that, if successful, can be easily implemented by other organizations.
 - Questions/comments: Curt Smith (MPPDC) asked why the Rappahannock River was chosen when there are 100's of projects on the York River. How would the CBSM project align with Fight the Flood? Will Isenberg (CZM) replied that CZM held a meeting for interested partners and among the attendees, Friends of the Rappahannock volunteered. CZM elected to go with the geography they're familiar with. Fight the Flood can certainly be integrated into the CBSM scope of work. The CBSM scope focuses primarily on a wide variety of social barriers to implementation, not just financial factors. Lewie Lawrence (MPPDC) cautioned that sending even well-meaning NGOs into communities might build false hope for property owners if funding to install living shorelines can't be delivered. FOR is also a trusted community

ambassador, CZM will rely on them to approach property owners while working with MPPDC to provide realistic paths forward for funding projects. Next Steps: CZM will invite MPPDC to the next CBSM project meeting to ensure that their concerns are incorporated into the scope of work.

- Predicting Shoreline Change in Chesapeake Bay
 - Donna Milligan (VIMS) presented on a proposal for a 3-year project to update the shoreline change models.
 - There is a lot of data on shoreline change and we can do a lot more with it.
 - The goal of this project is to answer questions like
 - Are forest lands eroding faster than marshes, etc.?
 - What shoreline change rate is most needed for planning?
 - Moreover, the goal is to answer questions necessary for planning.
 - This project will also aim to predict shoreline change into the future.
 - This proposed project will cover the Virginia portion of the Chesapeake Bay.
 - It also intends to update the shoreline change viewer and add historic aerial imagery to it.
 - In terms of end user feedback, Donna suggested that the Chesapeake Bay Landscape Professionals training may be a good avenue in addition to the York River Watershed Roundtable.
 - Partners asked questions of Donna:
 - Mary-Carson Stiff (Wetlands Watch) asked how this work relates to the work done to model the Chesapeake Bay Protection Act Resource Protection Areas (RPAs) as they will change with sea level rise?
 - It is not related to it, it just focuses on the shoreline, but this does propose to look at how this change will progress into the future.
 - Shoreline erosion rates are crucial for CRS credits, Mary-Carson added, cautioning that we need to be careful talking to users about the differences between these model results and the RPA modeling.
 - Lewie Lawrence (MPPDC) noted that homeowners are often curious about where their shoreline was and will be at the parcel level. So he finds this valuable since it is at a parcel level.
- Eco-tourism booster project
 - Jeff Flood (Virginia CZM) described the project which proposes to expand the participation in the Virginia Water Trails website site to include GWRC.
 - Additionally, the eco-tourism certificate course is something ANPDC will not be hosting next year so this is an opportunity to support the continuation of that program.
 - This project is also proposing an experiential element for water trails website, where a water trail will be selected and video footage with narration will be prepared to provide an opportunity to experience the trail virtually.
 - VMRC is also looking to develop youth program for fishing citation program and there is interest in this project supporting a part of that.
 - Lewie asked why VMRC isn't using other funds for this, and Joe Grist (VMRC) noted that it is because this would be a start-up fund for such a program.
- Other ideas from the CPT
 - Lewie Lawrence (MPPDC) shared an idea for purchasing tide gauges that could be used for the calculation of parametric insurance.
 - As insurance companies pull out of coastal areas, that presents a challenge. There are so many other assets that can be insured like living shorelines.
 - Parametric insurance provides the ability to insure assets that are not currently insured in the marketplace.

- It will insure anything like septic, wells, living shorelines, etc.
- This proposal is to bring in the ability to get the right type of data to allow the parametric insurance underwriters to calculate insurance rates.
- This idea is in the Coastal Resilience Master Plan.
- Specifically, this proposes to buy tide gauges and gift them to VIMS, allowing the insurance agency a new stream of data to bring more types of insurance to Virginia.
- Mark Luckenbach (VIMS) said that they learned from insurance company that well maintained gauges up the creeks where people live can be related to the long-term NOAA gauges to give reliable data for insurance estimates.
- The specific goal for this project is to purchase 4 gauges for use in Mobjack Bay to pilot this and see how this works with insurance rates.
- Question – what other data do the gauges pick up?
 - Just water level for this project.
 - The premium cost of using wind was too costly, so this is focusing on water level.
- Section 309
 - Joe Griest (VMRC) shared how the Interagency Stranding Phase II and Section 10 data project is envisioned.
 - VMRC is aiming to get a Section 10 permit for incidental takes.
 - This has been in the works for a long time, and this funding would help get the final part of this permit contracted and through to completion.
 - The estimated cost is \$40k.
 - Other projects continuing
 - RAFT
 - CRS
 - Fisheries Stakeholder Engagement task
 - UVA Support for Ocean Plan development
 - Clean Virginia Waterways
 - These leaves \$60K available in Section 309 TBD for a project. Please provide ideas for an additional project if you have them.

Next Steps: CZM will share Donna Milligan's proposal with the CPT. CPT members reach out if you have ideas for a 309 project for FY24 ~ 50-60K.

FY24 Scope of Work Submittal Process

- April Bahen (Virginia CZM) shared information on the FY24 Scope of Work submittal process.
- Sending out FY24 Proposal Template, budget guidance, and data sharing plan form 1/31/24
 - No updates to either, but PLEASE use these templates (Do NOT use an old scope as a template)
- Send proposals back to April Bahen.
- Please work on Indirect Cost Rate Agreement and the related documents and get them moved along to the maximum extent possible.
 - Lewie Lawrence (MPPDC) cautioned CZM to look at how OMB drives Indirect Cost Rate Agreements
 - It's impossible for people to start working on that until the audit is completed.
 - All the infrastructure money means a longer audit must occur, further delaying the process.
 - April shared that we know timelines are different, but if there's anything that can be done, please do.
 - The main point here is to try and push it along to the best of your abilities

- Formatting Fringe budget tables
 - We do not want you to format your fringe tables by breaking out the components.
 - All we need is the fringe rate and the salary/cost you're multiplying it by.
 - If there is an individual fringe rate, just use that.
 - If there are fringe components, they should go in the justification section under the budget table.
- New data sharing plan form this year is updated from last year.

Next Steps: CZM will share the slides that April walked through.

CZM Communications & Survey

Ryan Green noted that CZM magazines are available. Additionally, CZM will be requesting input on what communications formats are valuable for the entire network moving forward. For that purpose, CZM will send out a survey to request this input.

CPT Member/Partner Updates:

Ryan Green asked members to share quick updates in a round robin.

- Donna Milligan (VIMS): Submitted a Letter of Intent for the Inflation Reduction Act Coastal Resilience Challenge. They were selected for a full proposal on a project for a construction program with no match. Asking for \$54M, working within the habitat focal area and with the Pamunkey and Mattaponi Tribes, Coast Guard Station, Naval Weapons Station, CBNERR, Gloucester County, MPPDC, York River Watershed Roundtable, and others. The project includes SAV restoration, living shorelines, other restoration, and outreach. If anyone would like to do a letter of support, contact Donna.
- Scott Sandridge (VASG): Bringing back graduate symposium in Virginia Beach in October (also opening it up to undergraduates).
- Mary-Carson Stiff (Wetlands Watch): Introduced Savannah Newbern who is now leading the CRS Workgroup - she is the new flood risk project manager at Wetlands Watch and comes with a background in local government. In the past she worked in the Outer Banks.
- Cirse Gonzalez (CBNERRS): Middle-Peninsula Habitat Restoration Workshop is 1/31/24. They are also hosting a flooding workshop next week.
- Ben McFarlane (HRPDC): Finalizing Climate Pollution Reduction Grant plans.
- Kellen Singleton (ANPDC): UVA Climate Equity Project workshop will be February 7 in Melfa, VA. For those interested in attending visit:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdF622iGuYl8icu7CmxMA-T6hLbHfsTnNRNqkGEaNJfzK0uxA/viewform?usp=sf_link
- Terry Lasher (DOF): Will be hiring two coordinators for sentinel landscapes. Plan is to have those advertised in February, hoping to have the two coordinators hired soon thereafter. Statewide riparian forest buffer action plan is being worked on and should be completed by February 15. Forest legacy IRA round should be announced this week. Applications for this should be due to DOF by March 1.
- Meredith Keppel (GWRC): Working on a green infrastructure charette.
- Luke Peters (Berkley Group on behalf of Crater PDC): Crater PDC recently hosted a presentation by the Duke University Resilience Center.
- Air and Renewable Energy (DEQ)
 - New file in Coastal Gems will show all renewable energy projects in the coastal zone.
 - Will differentiate between solar projects that have a Notice of Intent, an active permit in place but not producing power, or projects that have a permit and are producing power.
 - Also for energy storage locations it will show notice of intent, an active permit with no energy, or an active permit with energy.
 - The map is a point layer, but the attributes have the size and other information.
 - These are only Permit by Rule projects.
- Carolyn Heaps-Pecaro (DCR): The Office of Resilience Planning is hiring a new resilience planner.

- Danielle Simms (DEQ EJ): EPA's new Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants program (Community Change Grants) has announced a Notice of Funding Opportunity for approximately \$2 billion dollars in Inflation Reduction Act funds in environmental and climate justice activities to benefit disadvantaged communities through projects that reduce pollution, increase community climate resilience, and build community capacity to address environmental and climate justice challenges. For more info: <https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/inflation-reduction-act-community-change-grants-program>
- Brianna Heath (NNPDC): Land Use Administrators meeting – February 12

Adjourn at 3:30

Attendees (56)

Scott Sandridge, VASG
 Sarah Stewart, PlanRVA
 Lewie Lawrence, MPPDC
 Meredith Keppel, GWRC
 Rebecca Murphy, NVRC
 Taylor Parker, VDOT
 Tinal Rayfield, DEQ
 Danielle Simms, DEQ
 Lyndia Branch, VDH
 Matt Dalon, DCR
 Carolyn Heaps-Pecaro, DCR
 Dan Salvovitz, DEQ
 Thomas Ruppert, William & Mary
 Sharon Baxter, DEQ
 Heather Mackey, DEQ
 Aaron Wendt, DCR
 Joseph Griest, VMRC
 Pam Mason, VIMS
 Sierra James, GWRC
 Mark Luckenbach, VIMS
 Todd Janeski, VCU
 Amy Martin, DWR
 David Norris, DWR
 Rachael Peabody, VMRC
 Lewis Gillingham, VMRC
 Brendan Burke, DHR
 Ryan Green, CZM
 Lucas Manweiler, CZM
 Jeff Flood, CZM
 April Bahen, CZM
 Will Isenberg, CZM
 Nick Meade, CZM
 Ben McFarlane, HRPDC
 Rob Evans, DCR
 Maura Christian, DEQ
 Kevin McLean, DEQ
 Donna Milligan, VIMS
 Mary-Carson Stiff, Wetlands Watch

Karina Nunez, VIMS
Cirse Gonzalez, CBNERR-VA
Meghann Quinn, DEQ
Terry Lasher, DOF
Luke Peters, Berkley Group on behalf of Crater PDC
Savanna Newbern, Wetlands Watch
Kellan Singleton, ANPDC
Curt Smith, MPPDC
David Hawkins, Virginia Energy
Joe Weber, DCR
Cliff Jenkins, DWR (VASG Fellow)
Thomas Ballou, DEQ
Andrew Larkin, NOAA*
John Kuriawa, NOAA*
Brianna Heath, NNPDC*
Eli Podyma, PlanRVA*
Grace Holmes, DEQ*
Jay Ellington, Crater PDC*

*Attended online