

Virginia

FY 09

COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT FUNDING

Mission

The Virginia Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program develops solutions to coastal management issues to achieve more vital and sustainable coastal communities and ecosystems.

Program Goals and Objectives

The Virginia CZM Program links 11 state agencies, 8 coastal Planning District Commissions and 44 Tidewater cities and counties to:

- Protect and restore coastal resources, habitats and species; protect air quality; restore and maintain the quality of all coastal waters; and reduce or prevent losses of coastal habitat, life and property.
- Promote sustainable ecotourism, increase and improve public access; provide for sustainable wild fisheries and aquaculture; and, promote renewable energy production and appropriate extraction of minerals.
- Promote informed decisions by making available up-to-date technical advice/scientific data; avoid and minimize coastal resource use conflicts; ensure sustainable development on the coast and; support water dependent access.

Key Accomplishments

- Partnered with MD, DE, NJ and NY CZM Programs, through the Mid-Atlantic Regional Council on the Ocean (MARCO), to create an on-line mapping and planning portal to aid in marine spatial planning in the Mid-Atlantic region.
- Developed “Living Shorelines” design guidelines, training for contractors, and an improved website to help meet an increasing demand for this natural alternative to shoreline hardening.
- Created a comprehensive map of ecologically valuable lands and waters derived from a variety of partner agencies’ datasets to aid Virginia’s coastal localities in blue-green infrastructure protection.
- Acquired 26 acres and replanted with native trees and shrubs to create migratory bird habitat on Virginia’s Eastern Shore. Also installed 2 observation blinds, a walking trail and interpretive signage. Produced a guide to native plants to engage residents in planting native species to improve habitat and protect water quality and quantity.

Key Priorities

The program’s key priorities and needs for the next year, if provided more funding and support are:

- Coastal and marine spatial planning for Virginia and the Mid-Atlantic region – refinement of the MARCO Mapping and Planning Portal (www.midatlanticocean.org) to support renewable energy siting and habitat protection. Increased funding is needed to create state of the art decision support tools for the Portal.
- Climate change planning and adaptation at the state and local level. Increased funding is needed to analyze LIDAR data and create useful maps for coastal communities.
- Increased funding is needed to protect working waterfronts and stimulate job development in marine fisheries and aquaculture.
- Increased funding is needed for land acquisition and public access construction to stimulate Virginia’s ecotourism industry.
- Promotion of “living shorelines” using techniques that protect property and habitat and developing policies to provide incentives for living shorelines.

The Virginia CZM Program is a network of state agencies and local governments. The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality serves as the lead agency and CZM staff are housed there.

Coastal Population in 2010:
5,044,179

Miles of Coastline:
3,315

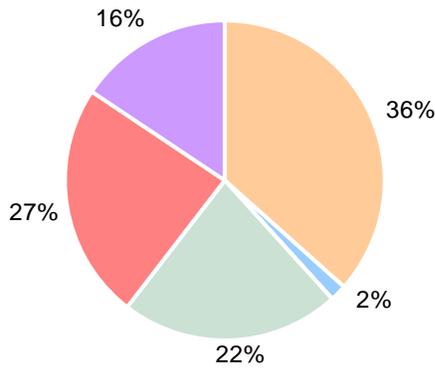
CZMA Funds:
\$2,652,200

State and Other Matching Funds:
\$2,116,200

Total:
\$4,768,400



How was the money spent?



Total Funds
\$4,768,400

Community Planning and Development - \$745,750 (16%)

- Developed blue and green infrastructure conservation corridor recommendations and plans for seven coastal regions
- Conducted assessment of 900 residents in northern Virginia to gauge their familiarity with coastal hazards and shoreline maintenance to develop effective outreach
- Created GIS data layer of working waterfronts in Northern Neck counties to help inform future policy development

Coordination and Public Involvement - \$1,744,748 (36%)

- Reviewed over 100 local and federal development projects and management plans for consistency with the CZMA
- Produced a new community education module "Climate Science 101"
- Increased native plant sales at local garden centers by as much as 10% through the Plant Eastern Shore Natives social marketing campaign
- Held two workshops, "Beautifying Your Yard for Clean Water", for 66 participants

Coastal Water Quality Protection - \$1,058,426 (22%)

- Retrofitted Tappahannock Wastewater Treatment Plant with enhanced nutrient reduction technologies
- Supported staff to administer the Virginia Coastal Nonpoint Source Pollution Program

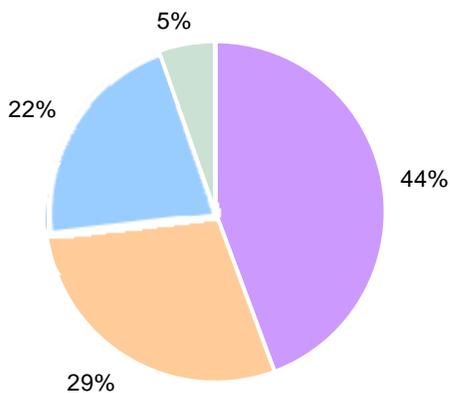
Coastal Habitat Conservation and Restoration - \$1,139,476 (27%)

- Developed a class for contractors and localities on the design and construction of living shorelines
- Updated spatial data on shellfish, eelgrass, birds and recreational use for the Seaside of Virginia's Eastern Shore for marine spatial planning

Coastal Hazards - \$80,000 (2%)

- Provided technical advice to coastal localities for mitigating and adapting to climate change in several coastal regions, including potential economic impacts
- Created modeling tool to assess sea level rise and storm surge impacts in several coastal regions

Who received the funds?



Total Federal Funds
\$2,652,200

Community and Other Technical Assistance - \$763,918 (29%)

- Coastal Regional Planning District Commissions – Supported local coastal technical assistance programs, county comprehensive plan and zoning ordinance updates, blue/green infrastructure protection, and climate change adaptation
- Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center - Rehabilitated 41 stranded sea turtles, more than any other year
- Crater Planning District Commission – Supported activities to construct a trail boardwalk in the Appomattox River Regional Park in Prince George County
- Accomack County – Developed maps to highlight protected and at risk blue and green infrastructure to inform planning strategies

State Partners - \$1,175,561 (44%)

- Department of Environmental Quality – Coordinated the Virginia CZM network; conducted outreach and education; reviewed projects for federal consistency
- Virginia Marine Resources Commission – Reviewed wetlands permits for compliance and conducted inspections

Other Partners - \$142,356 (5%)

- Back Bay Restoration Foundation – Facilitated a multi-partner forum on agriculture and water quality in the Back Bay watershed
- The Nature Conservancy - Created the MARCO Mapping and Planning Portal to facilitate marine spatial planning efforts with stakeholders
- Environmental Law Institute - Analyzed Virginia's threatened and endangered species laws to clarify enforceable policies

Academic Institutions - \$570,365 (22%)

- University of Virginia – Facilitated Virginia's 5-year coastal needs assessment
- Virginia Institute of Marine Science - Developed a website that promotes Living Shorelines by providing scientific guidance on shoreline management; produced shoreline evolution reports for four communities; and shoreline inventory reports for two counties
- Virginia Commonwealth University - Prepared GIS maps to depict suitability of areas for offshore wind turbines in Virginia's coastal waters

OTHER PARTNERS

Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve in Virginia | Clean Virginia Waterways/Longwood University | Eastern Shore and Northampton Chambers of Commerce and Tourism Commissions | Mid-Atlantic Coastal Zone Management Programs | NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office | Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services | Virginia Department of Forestry | Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries | Virginia Department of Health | Virginia Department of Historic Resources | Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy | Virginia Department of Transportation | Virginia Economic Development Partnership | Virginia Sea Grant | U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | Wetlands Watch

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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