

# Coastal Resources and the Permit Process: Definitions and Jurisdictions Exam Questions

1 . Indicate whether the following are Federal (F) or Virginia (V) laws:

- (F) (V) Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Appropriation Act of 1899
- (F) (V) Coastal Primary Sand Dune Protection Act
- (F) (V) Tidal Wetlands Act
- (F) (V) Section 404 of the Clean Water Act

2 . Which of the following are components of the Federal or Virginia wetland definitions?  
(Indicate F or V or leave blank, as appropriate.)

- (F) (V) ( ) based on tidal datums
- (F) (V) ( ) based on 3 parameters: soil, vegetation, hydrology
- (F) (V) ( ) includes both tidal and nontidal wetlands
- (F) (V) ( ) includes only tidal wetlands
- (F) (V) ( ) must be contiguous to mean low water
- (F) (V) ( ) if vegetated, must have one or more of listed wetland plant species

3 . Where does private property ownership extend to in Virginia? (Check one)

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1 .5 times the mean tide range above mean low water
- \_\_\_\_\_ depends on the county
- \_\_\_\_\_ mean high water
- \_\_\_\_\_ mean sea level
- \_\_\_\_\_ N G V D
- \_\_\_\_\_ mean low water

4. Which agencies **could** have original jurisdiction in the following examples? (Tidal examples are located in counties which have Wetland Boards.) Include all that apply; **C** = U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; **V** = Virginia Marine Resources Commission; **W** = local Wetland Board

- (C) (V) (W) MLW to MHW
- (C) (V) (W) MHW to elevation above MLW equal to 1.5 times the mean tide range
- (C) (V) (W) in the middle of a river channel in the western part of Virginia
- (C) (V) (W) channelward of MLW
- (C) (V) (W) at an elevation above 1.5 times the mean tide range above MLW in a county which does not have coastal primary sand dunes

5. NGVD is the datum for land elevations on USGS topographic maps.

T  
F

6 . Indicate whether the following are examples of subtidal land (**T**), subaqueous land (**A**).

- (T) (A) channelward of MLW in a manmade canal
- (T) (A) in the middle of a river channel west of I-95 in Virginia
- (T) (A) channelward of MLW in the Potomac River (not in an embayment or inlet)
- (T) (A) channelward of MLW in a natural waterbody in Tidewater Virginia

7 . Indicate whether the following are components of Virginia's vegetated wetland (**V**), nonvegetated wetland (**N**), coastal primary sand dune (**D**), or beach (**B**) definitions. (Include all that apply.)

- V N D B between MLW and MHW only
- V N D B from MHW to a change in- grade from greater than 10% to less than 10%
- V N D B occur in all tidewater localities in Virginia
- V N D B occur only in 8 Virginia localities bordering the Chesapeake Bay
- V N D B landward limit is an elevation above MLW equal to 1.5 times the mean tide range
- V N D B landward limit is MHW
- V N D B landward limit is a marked change in material composition or in physiographic form
- V N D B landward limit is a line of woody vegetation or the nearest impermeable manmade structure
- V N D B mound of unconsolidated sandy soil
- V N D B contiguous to MLW
- V N D B contiguous to MHW
- V N D B must be vegetated with any of the listed plant species
- V N D B the shoreline zone of unconsolidated sandy material

8. Matching.

- a. mean tide range
- b. mean low water
- c. mean sea level
- d. mean high water
- e. NGVD

- a b c d e doesn't have anything to do with tidal data
- a b c d e the average elevation of low water observed over the National Tidal Datum Epoch
- a b c d e the difference in elevation between MLW and MHW
- a b c d e the average of hourly water elevations observed over the Metonic cycle
- a b c d e the average elevation of high water observed over the Metonic cycle '

9 . If you are applying to construct a private boat ramp on your tidal shoreline, from whom should you receive a permit, or indication that a permit is not necessary, before beginning your project? (You may check more than one.)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Va. Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries
- \_\_\_\_\_ Va. Marine Resources Commission
- \_\_\_\_\_ U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- \_\_\_\_\_ Va. Institute of Marine Science
- \_\_\_\_\_ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- \_\_\_\_\_ Va. Dept. of Environmental Quality
- \_\_\_\_\_ Shoreline Erosion Advisory Service
- \_\_\_\_\_ Wetland Board
- \_\_\_\_\_ Governor of Virginia

10. Does a wetland board have jurisdiction over wetlands in a manmade canal?

- \_\_\_\_\_ Yes
- \_\_\_\_\_ No

11. If the mean tide range at a site is 2.4 feet, what is the elevation of the landward limit of jurisdiction in vegetated wetlands? (Check one.)

- \_\_\_\_\_ mean low water
- \_\_\_\_\_ mean high water
- \_\_\_\_\_ mean sea level
- \_\_\_\_\_ N G V D + 3 .6 f e e t
- \_\_\_\_\_ mean low water + 3.6 feet
- \_\_\_\_\_ mean low water + 1.2 feet
- \_\_\_\_\_ mean high water + 1.2 feet

