



Final Project Summary

Your final project summary is an important contribution to the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program's communication efforts and will be used to produce accomplishment reports, fact sheets and **Virginia Coastal Zone Management Web Site** information.

Please submit this form electronically to: april.bahen@deq.virginia.gov.

YOU DO NOT NEED TO SUBMIT A HARD COPY

NOAA Grant #:	#NA07NOS4190178	Grant Year:	FY07	Task #:	93.04
Agency/Locality:	Virginia Institute of Marine Science				
Project Title:	Estuarine Blue Infrastructure: Draft Priority Conservation Areas for Chesapeake Bay and its Tidal Tributaries and Back Bay A Cumulative Resource Assessment				
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PROJECT SUMMARY: Please confine your summary to the space provided below. Remember to:

- write for the public
- do not use first person
- include an abstract of project results
- provide a brief description, and titles, of publication(s) and/or dataset(s) produced
- describe how products will be distributed and if available on-line, please give the **Web address!**

This project is an extension of earlier efforts within the coastal zone of Virginia to build a platform for enhanced Blue and Green Infrastructure planning. This project is motivated by an interest in extending statewide conservation efforts into estuarine systems and recognition that land use decisions on the upland effect water quality and habitat health in the receiving waters.

The project in its entirety has been accomplished in distinct parts. Part one, accomplished under this grant develops a Cumulative Resource Assessment to evaluate the distribution of aquatic natural resources within waters of Virginia's Chesapeake Bay waters, Back Bay of Virginia Beach, Virginia, and the seaside of the Eastern Shore of Virginia.

The Cumulative Resource Assessment (CRA) was developed to define where clusters of aquatic natural resources exist within the tidal tributaries. The basis for a CRA is to collect and geographically juxtapose living resource data. Seventeen different data layers were used. The outcome of the CRA indicated areas where the maximum number of resources co-exists. The results indicated that no more than seven data themes co-existed in any one location within the study boundary. The results suggest areas of species and habitat diversity, however, they do not confirm that the most important or valuable resources exist within the given area.

SUBMIT