



## Oyster Summit

### Agenda

Thursday-Friday, February 18-19<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
 University of Mary Washington – Stafford Campus  
 121 University Boulevard  
 Fredericksburg, VA 22406

The NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office is hosting this Oyster Summit as a forum to convene a broad group of stakeholders, including managers, industry, scientists, nongovernmental organizations and community groups, across jurisdictions to discuss shared interests in increasing the number of oysters in the Chesapeake Bay. The objectives of this Summit are to:

- Share knowledge and identify common objectives for increasing the number of oysters.
- Identify needs and opportunities with near-term actions that would benefit Bay oyster populations for all.
- Chart a course for sharing needs, opportunities and suggestions that emerge from the Summit broadly to stakeholders in Maryland and Virginia for input and consensus-building.
- Distribute the results of the Summit and next steps to appropriate audiences, tailored for Maryland and Virginia, as appropriate, e.g., scientists, industry, policymakers and jurisdiction management agencies.

The products coming out of this Summit will include proposals from the Summit participants based on the group discussions and presentations, as well as next steps for engaging stakeholders in both states, as appropriate, to vet and build consensus around proposals. The NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office will work with Summit participants and other stakeholders to ensure that Summit findings are delivered to the relevant policymakers and management agencies.

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## **Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup> – Day 1**

**10:00am**      **Welcome and Purpose** – Peyton Robertson (NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office)

### **SETTING THE STAGE**

**10:30am**      **Opening Plenary: State of Oysters**  
 Mark Luckenbach (VIMS) and Don Boesch (UMCES)

**12:00pm**      **Lunch**

**Conceptual Modeling Activity: Pieces of the Oyster Puzzle**  
 Jim Vasslides (Barnegat Bay Partnership), Howard Townsend (NOAA),  
 Amy Freitag VASG/NOAA)

## FACTORS LIMITING PRODUCTION OF MORE OYSTERS

### **1:00pm          Session 1: Shell and Substrate Availability**

- 1:00      Presentation: Overview – Ward Slacum (Oyster Recovery Partnership)
- 1:20      Panel: Response to Shell and Substrate Overview
- 1:50      Breakout sessions
- 2:30      Wrap-up Discussion

### **3:00pm          Break**

### **3:15pm          Session 2: Hatchery Production and Resilience**

- 3:10      Panel: Introduction and perspectives from larvae producers and users.
- 3:40      Panel Q&A with Full Group discussion
- 4:30      Wrap-up

**4:50pm          Depart for Downtown Fredericksburg (Hotel Accommodations and Dinner)**  
Courtyard Fredericksburg Historic District  
620 Caroline Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22401  
  
Spencer Devon Restaurant Brewpub  
106 George Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22401

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## **Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup> – Day 2**

**9:00am          Day 1 Recap and Day 2 Introduction – Peyton Robertson (NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office)**

## **ENGAGING THE BROADER OYSTER COMMUNITY**

### **9:15am          Session 3: Community-based Oyster Efforts**

- 9:15      Panel: Introduce each program's goal, organizational design, and operations
- 9:45      Panel Q&A

### **10:45am          Break**

## **A COMPLEX POLICY LANDSCAPE**

### **11:00am          Session 4: Navigating the Policy Landscape**

- 11:00 Introduction
- 11:10 Jurisdictional Policy Landscape Analysis
- 11:30 Oyster Professional Network Analysis
- 11:45 Case Study: Potomac River Policy Landscape
- 12:15 Wrap-up: Full Group Discussion
- 12:30pm Lunch**
- Poster Session: Mapping the Social, Economic, and Ecological Dimensions of Oysters**  
Amy Freitag (VASG/NOAA)
- 1:30pm Revisit Day 1 Conceptual Modeling exercise**  
Jim Vasslides (Barnegat Bay Partnership), Howard Townsend (NOAA), Amy Freitag (VASG/NOAA)
- 2:00pm Closing Plenary: Collaborative management and research**  
David Bushek and Lisa Calvo (Rutgers University Extension)
- Delaware Bay shares many ecological features with the Chesapeake region and provides an interesting point of comparison as they also consider the needs of aquaculture, wild harvest, restoration, and sanctuaries. They've taken a collaborative approach to both understanding the ecology of the Bay and managing its resources. The Delaware Bay team will also reflect upon what they've heard about the Chesapeake and what sounded exciting to them moving forward.*
- 2:45pm Session 5: Charting a Course for Moving Forward**
- Facilitator: Jennifer Dindinger (MD Sea Grant)  
The results of this Summit are intended to inform broader discussions among more stakeholders, the management agencies and policymakers. We will develop next steps for moving forward, building upon these suggestions, vetting them and soliciting further input broadly, and identifying points of consensus.
- Breakout groups and Full group discussion*
- 4:00pm Wrap-up – Peyton Robertson (NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office)**
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