



## **Joint Hampton Roads and Western Shore VA Oyster Team**

### **Meeting Agenda**

Nov 9, 2022 1:00 - 3:00pm

#### **Notes**

Welcome, and note that this is a public meeting under the Bay Program Sustainable Fisheries Goal Implementation team

1) Construction updates on VA's 5 Tribes:

Corps: Piankatank contract was issued; construction should begin Jan or Feb 2023. This phase will surround the 2017 reef, and add another reef.

Corps continues work on planning their Great Wicomico reefs.

Lynnhaven: Corps permit- Corps intends to go before VMRC in December- not yet confirmed. Have made some design modifications based on public input; dialogue continues.

Note that the 2023 National Shellfish Fisheries Association meeting in Baltimore will have a session on SAV and oyster interactions. Corps has been planting SAV (eel and widgeon) in Lynnhaven, near oyster reefs. Either at a winter 2023 Workgroup meeting, or at Corps Interagency oyster meeting, it would be good to get a presentation on this.

Lower York—Andrew Larkin as proxy for Andrew Button: Lower York- approx. 140- 150 acres have been built; the remainder will be built in spring 2023.

VIMS: York Naval Weapons Station/ Penniman Spit project: using four different oyster structures; planned in 48 plots—each with 12 sq ft with two different reef heights; two locations.

Placed 1/3 of them in September 2022- might have gotten the tail end of spat settlement - the rest will happen in early summer to catch spat set. Study would help determine which are most effective and cost effective; then could build more with additional funding. Acreage of the project may be small (160,000 oysters on the subtidal reefs combined, but research findings will be significant in terms of informing future project designs.

2) 2022 Chesapeake Bay Oyster Restoration Update document: the 2021 version can be found here,  
<https://www.chesapeakebay.net/who/publications-archive/maryland-and-virginia-oyster-restoration-interagency-teams>

Send NOAA any GIS shapefiles or lat/ long corner coordinates of reefs constructed in 2022 under the '10 tribes' initiative, so NOAA can put them into the GIS geodatabases,

Suggestion was made that there should be opportunities for MD and VA to do an info exchange/ field trip exchange between MD and VA partners. Could include a semi-annual virtual exchange- ie, a Bay Wide (MD/ VA) oyster meeting for ide exchange. The pressing need to define the next collective oyster goal could be a hook for this.

How to represent living shoreline/intertidal work in the above document?

3) Going to bi-monthly meetings, streamlining workgroup name. No dissent or comments.

4) Rom asked that we share information about the following session at the upcoming shellfish conference in Baltimore about SAV and shellfish

**From:** "Kay McGraw, Ph.D." <[kmcgraw5@earthlink.net](mailto:kmcgraw5@earthlink.net)>

**Subject:** Invitation to participate in "Shellfish-Seagrass Interactions" session at the 115th NSA meeting in Baltimore MD

**Date:** November 8, 2022 at 12:25:47 AM GMT-5

**Cc:** "[brett.dumbauld@usda.gov](mailto:brett.dumbauld@usda.gov)" <[brett.dumbauld@usda.gov](mailto:brett.dumbauld@usda.gov)>

[EXTERNAL to VIMS received message]

Dear Colleagues,

You are receiving this email because of your interest in and/ or research about seagrass and its interaction with shellfish. We (Kay McGraw and Brett Dumbauld) are organizing a **"Shellfish - Seagrass Interactions"** session for the **115<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the National Shellfisheries Association (NSA) meeting in Baltimore, Maryland, March 26 – March 30, 2023**. Due to popular demand, we are having a reprise of a similar session we convened at the 2018 NSA meeting in Seattle.

The session topic broadly includes any ecological aspect of seagrass and shellfish relationships. These can be "natural" e.g. native species and "normal" conditions (biological, geo-chemical (benthic-pelagic coupling), or "anthropogenic" effects (e.g. introduced shellfish or seagrasses and other stressors such as eutrophication or climate change effects). Of particular interest would be ecosystem service provisions and these can be viewed as both beneficial (e.g. seagrass as habitat for mussels, scallops or crabs) or negative (seagrass loss and protection as a regulatory deterrent to shellfish aquaculture). Scientific research on interactions between cultured shellfish (marine aquaculture) and seagrass are thus welcomed. Submissions for presentations should be different from those presented at previous NSA meetings – but additional or new research on the same topic regarding seagrass-shellfish interactions are acceptable. Presentations should be about ongoing or completed research projects; however, preliminary results and planned projects are fine for consideration in poster sessions.

Please let us know as soon as possible if you are interested in participating in this session, whether you would prefer to give an oral presentation or poster, send us a **tentative title** for your presentation(s)/poster, and either a draft abstract or very brief description of what you might include in your talk or poster. Presentations are limited to 15 minutes total, including questions. We also hope to have a discussion period with all of the presenters at the end of the session.

**Please note that the deadline for abstract submissions for the meeting is Dec. 15, 2022.** More information is available at:

<https://shellfish.memberclicks.net/annual-meeting---abstract-submission>. Meeting details can be found on the NSA web site [HERE](#). Feel free to forward this email to others you think may be interested in participating in the session.

**Remember - NSA meeting in Baltimore, Maryland, March 26 – March 30, 2023.** We hope to see you there!

Best regards,

Kay McGraw and Brett Dumbauld

Co-chairs for the session

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