



# Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission

On Behalf of

Accomack County and Northampton County

Two (2) Eastern Shore Waterway Maintenance Fund

Grant Applications for 2019:

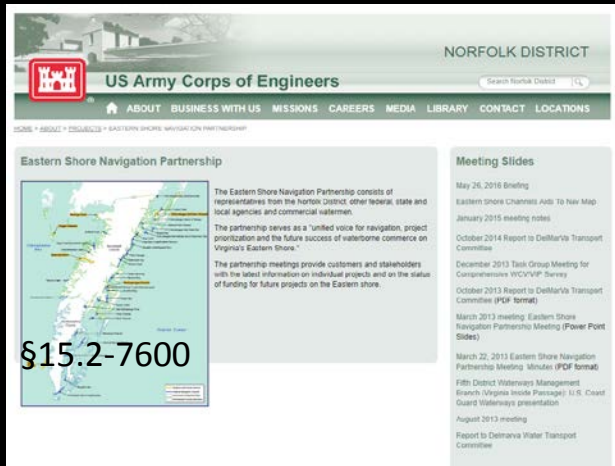
**Quinby Channel Dredging - Accomack County**

**Kings Creek Dredging - Northampton County**

Shannon Alexander --- February 14, 2019



# Background & Previous Efforts



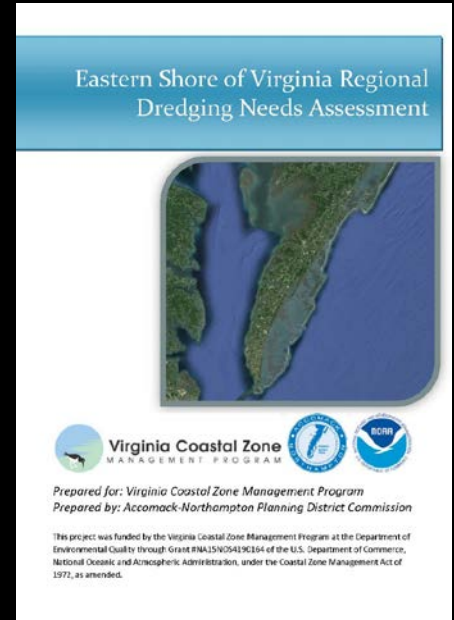
- 2015 Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee (ESRNWC) – bi-county Committee formalized by Joint Resolution

- Part of the [Eastern Shore Navigation Partnership](#)

- 2016 Regional Dredging Needs Assessment
- 2016 Virginia Working Waterfront Master Plan

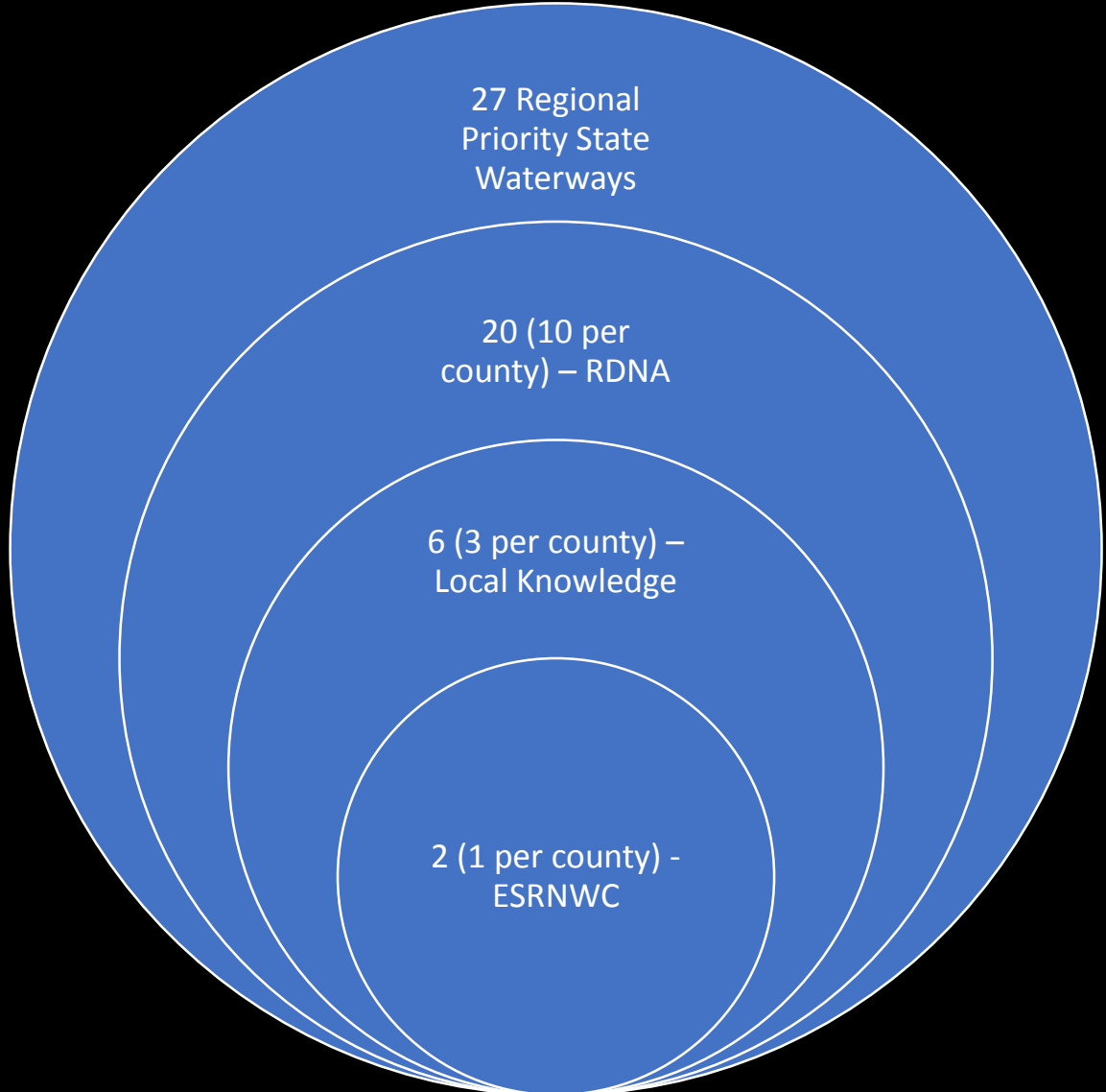
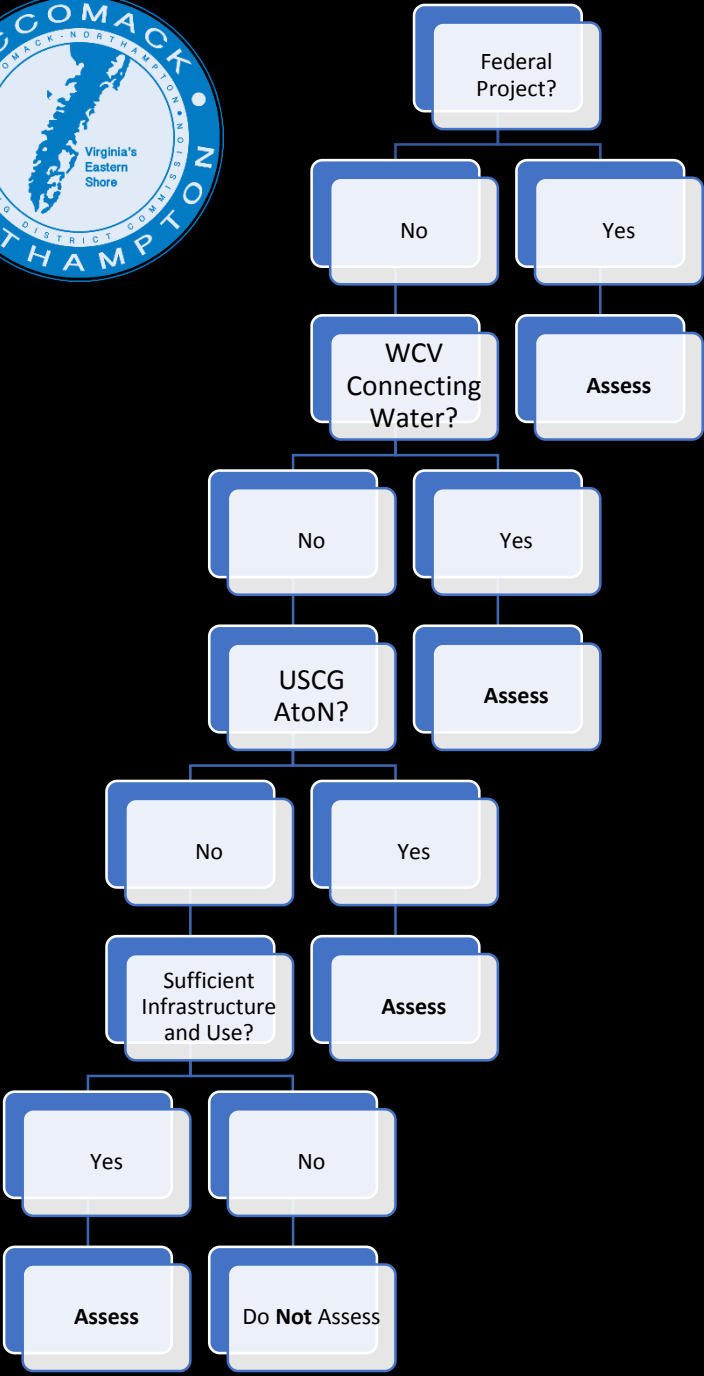
- Part of rural coastal Virginia as defined by §15.2-7600, with active Working Waterfront businesses and activities

- 2017 Joint Resolution: Commonwealth Waterway Maintenance Funding





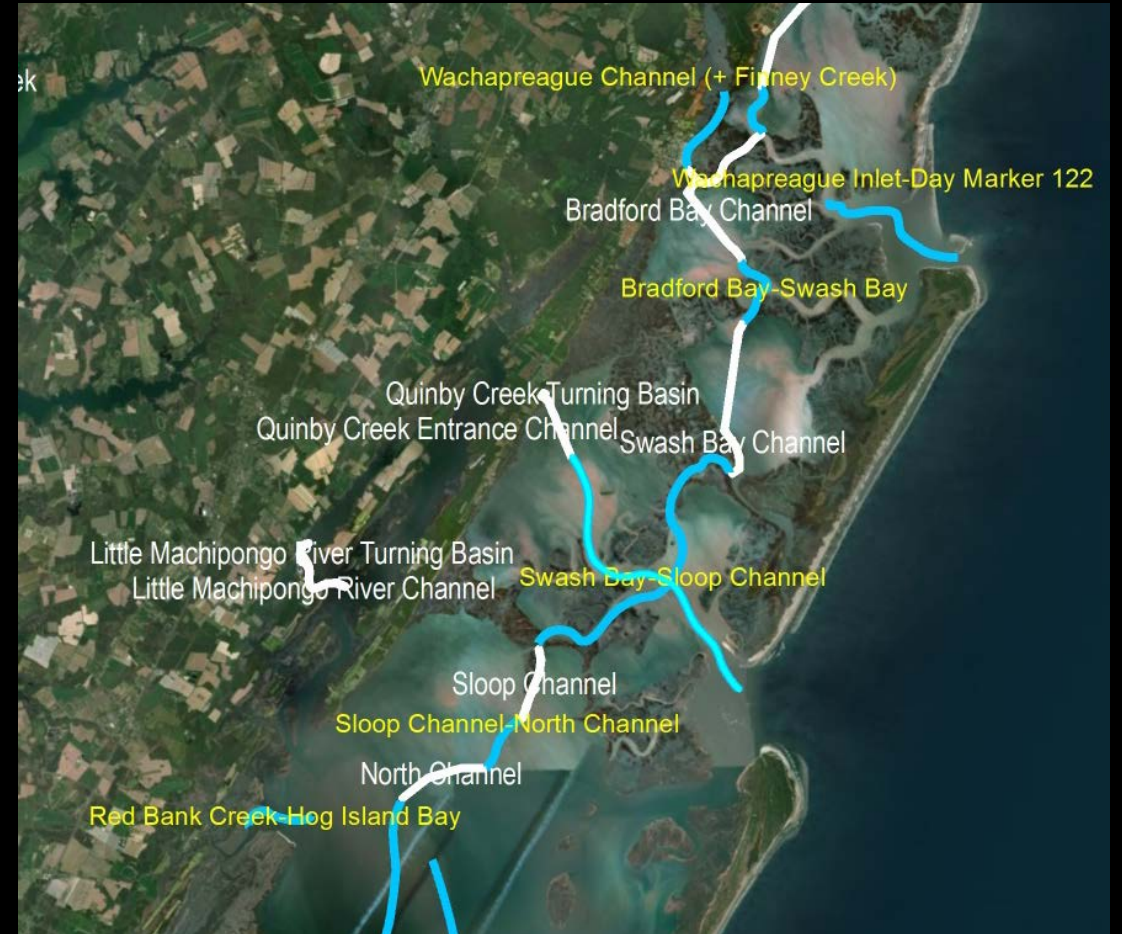
# Prioritization & Selection Process





# Justification for Need

- Both of These Proposed Projects are Virginia Commonwealth Waterways, non-Federal and Thus Federal Funding is Not Available,
- The only Applicable Grant Funding Source for the Maintenance of These Waterways is the Virginia WMF



- Federal Channel
- State Waterway (rough estimate of project extent)



# Economic Justification for Need



- **Tourism** has a significant impact on the Eastern Shore of Virginia economy. The number of residents with tourism related jobs increased from 2,597 in 2011 to 3,070 in 2017, and revenues from Eastern Shore tourism during that time increased by almost 28% to \$286 million.
- The USACE determined that the annual value of water-based recreation on the seaside alone is \$1,920,741.00 (USACE, 2011.a). This figure is perceived by local members of the ESRNWC as a significant underestimate of the value of recreation on the seaside and thus a misrepresentation of the impact of declining maintenance of the regional waterways (ESRNWC Chairman, personal communication, August 15, 2016).





# Economic Justification for Need Fisheries/Aquaculture



- Licenses Sold:

- Clam Aquaculture Permits: Accomack 94 + Northampton 183 = Total 277
- Oyster Aquaculture Permits: Accomack 179 + Northampton 164 = Total 343
- Commercial Card License: Accomack 488 + Northampton 170 = Total 658

- Landings:

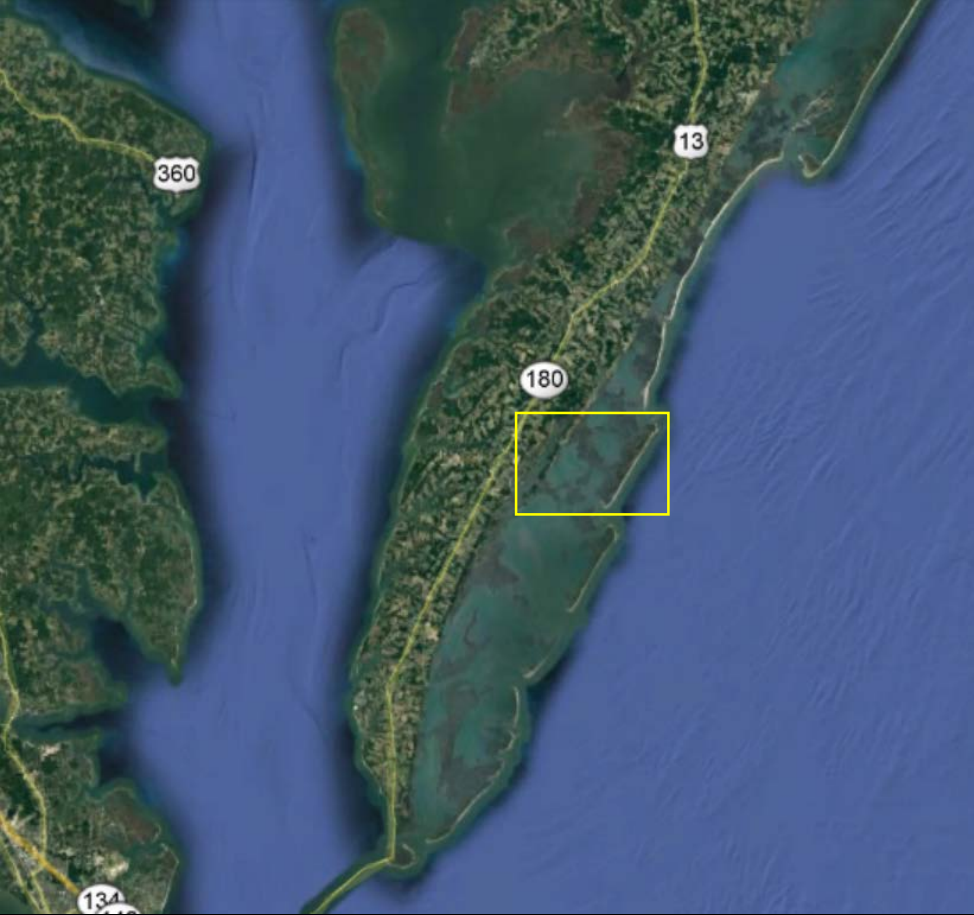
- Accomack County \$5.98M Fin Fish + \$15.03M Shellfish = Total \$21.01M
- Northampton County \$1.62M Fin Fish + \$25.42M Shellfish = Total \$27.04M
- Regional Total for a single year is over \$48 Million
- Sale value is much lower than actual economic value.

i.e. in 2013 Northampton County landed about \$20 million in clams and oysters, but shellfish farms sold over \$36.7 million (Murray, 2014).

- *This does not include oyster and clam seed for the aquaculture industry*
- *This does not include any data concerning the value associated with access for hunting or recreation, nor of support industries.*



# Accomack County: Quinby Channel Dredging Project





# Accomack County: Quinby Channel Use Information

- Public marina
  - 83 rental slips, can accommodate boats up to 45'
  - ample parking
  - wide concrete launching ramp
  - pump out station
- Historically significant working waterfront
- Now, primary year-users are aquaculture fleet
  - Approx. 30 of these
  - Employ approx. 60 full time individuals
- Many seasonal commercial fishermen involved in a variety of fisheries.
- Peak recreational use during the spring flounder and drum seasons, >20 vessels/day
  - Large amount of recreational use from other states; high tourism value
- Used by the Virginia Marine Resource Commission (VMRC) for patrols







# Quinby Channel

- 1 ¼ mile federally maintained channel from the harbor towards the inlet which transitions to Commonwealth waterway
- Proposed to be evaluated are the first 1.6 miles of the 5 miles of the Commonwealth waterway which continues on to the inlet with the Atlantic
- Federal portion dredged in 2017 by the USACE for \$1.745 million
- Quinby Channel connects to south Sloop Channel and north Swash Bay Channel, both part of the federally designated north-south Virginia Inside Passage/Waterway on the Coast of Virginia
- Quinby Channel is experiencing significant shoaling in the proposed area of service and is thus restricting the use of and negatively impacting the safe navigation of this Commonwealth, non-federal waterway.





© 2018 Google

Google Earth

Walkers Tumps



# Pealer Point

- Approx. 200-acre overboard placement site
- Mostly non-vegetated wetland in Upshur Bay
- Primarily used for maintenance dredged material from the Quinby Creek Federal Navigation Project.



Intertidal wetlands created from dredged material can protect an eroding shoreline, and the protected marsh habitat provides foraging areas for wildlife and refuge for juvenile finfish and crabs. The vegetated wetlands also serve as a natural filter by removing sediments from the surrounding waterbody. Since each dredged material placement method has a host of potential benefits intertwined with estuarine ecology it's difficult to identify a single targeted beneficial use.



# Estimated Phase 1 Project Costs

**Phase One Activities and Total Phase One Project Cost: \$188,000**

Phase One Activity	Quinby Channel Phase One End of Federal Channel Approximately Buoy "9" to Approximately Buoy "1"
Project Planning/Admin	\$20,000
Channel Condition Survey/Base Mapping	\$35,000
Sediment Sampling: Physical & Chemical	\$15,000
Disposal Strategy / DMMP / Beneficial Use. Research on existing disposal areas if alternate needed to Corps Containment Site	\$50,000
Permit preparation and submittal	\$15,000
Design and construction documents for bidding for Phase Two	\$30,000
Minor, Miscellaneous & Unplanned	\$20,000
Consolidate all Phase One costs/invoices submit and receive reimbursement from VPA	\$3,000
<b>Totals: Phase One: Fiscal Year 2020</b>	<b>\$188,000</b>

**The costs for Phase 2 (actual dredging), will be subject of 2020 WMF Grant Application once the Phase 1 evaluation/engineering work is completed**

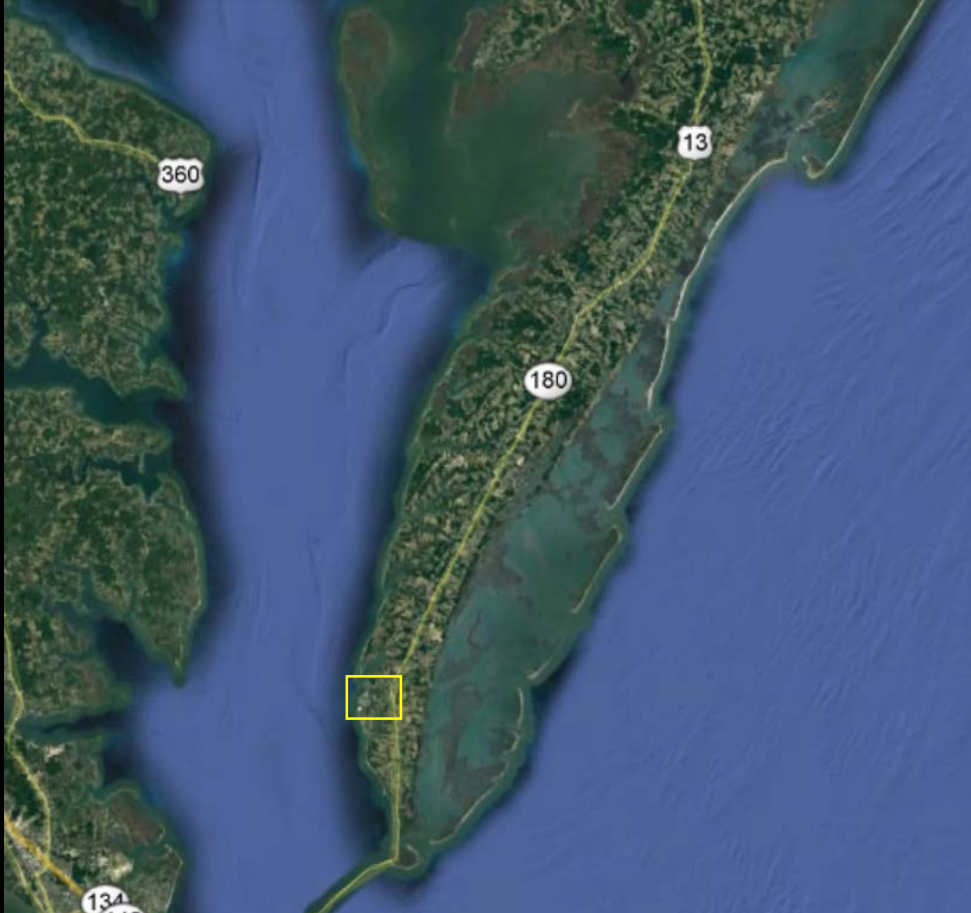


# Quinby Channel Dredging – Accomack County

Approximate Project Timeline: To be determined by contract negotiations with the Prime Contractor

Phase One Activity	Approximate Project Timeframe
Grant Award Notification-Request for Quotation from Potential Phase 1 Contractors	June 1-July 1, 2019
Finalize Contractor Agreement and Project Management Plan, Other Project Planning & Admin Activities	July-August 2019
Channel Condition Survey/Base Mapping: Sediment Sampling and Evaluation	August-November 2019
Disposal Strategy / DMMP / Beneficial Use. Research on existing disposal areas if alternate to Cherrystone needed	August-December 2019
Joint Permit Preparation and Submittal	October 2019-June 2020
Develop design and construction documents for bidding for Phase Two	December 2019-January 2020
Minor, Miscellaneous & Unplanned Activities	July 2019-June 2020
Consolidate all Phase One costs/invoices submit and receive reimbursement from VPA	July 2019-June 2020
Use of Phase 1 Information to Develop Phase 2 WMF VPA Grant Application for FY 2021	January-March 1, 2020
Full Project Phase 1 Timeline	June 1, 2019-June 30, 2020

# Northampton County: Kings Creek Dredging Project





# Northampton County: Kings Creek Use Information

- The Oyster Farm Marina provides 124 slips from 35' to 70', with the ability to handle vessels up to 150'.
  - Includes: fueling station, a ship's store, showers, restrooms, laundry, and swimming pool.
- One of the longest-running commercial marinas. Now a mixture of commercial & recreational.
- The marina is part of a 39-acre resort aptly named The Oyster Farm at Kings Creek. On-site, there is a year-round waterfront restaurant and the Pearl Event, Wedding & Catering Center. Luxury villas are also available as vacation rentals & accommodations





# Northampton County: Kings Creek Use Information

- Cherrystone Family Camping Resort is over 300 acres with over 700 camp sites.
  - The facility includes: camping cabins, on-site camper rentals, five swimming pools, four fishing piers, a beautiful beach, large dog park and their very own dog beach, newly renovated Cafe/Lounge, a well-stocked General Store and the Bait and Tackle Shop.
- Various beach/coastal portions of the property are experiencing coastal erosion.
- Approximately 40,000 visitors use the Cherrystone facility annually







# Kings Creek: Ballard's Fish and Oyster Company

- Ballard's Fish and Oyster Company operates on Kings Creek.
- A top private employer in Northampton County: 200 employees
- \$14M of Ballard's farm raised clams spend a considerable portion of their pre-harvest lives in Kings Creek
- \$6M of Ballard's farm raised oysters are hatched, nursieried or grown in Kings Creek
- Kings Creek is vital to the Ballard's aquafarm business





Sandy Island



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Image © 2019 TerraMetrics  
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The Oyster Farm At Kings Creek

Google Earth



# Estimated Phase 1 Project Costs

Phase One Activity	Kings Creek Project Cost Estimate* Phase One Approximately buoy "15" out to approximately buoy "2"
Project Planning/Admin	\$20,000
Channel Condition Survey/Base Mapping	\$26,000
Sediment Sampling: Physical & Chemical	\$17,000
Disposal Strategy / DMMP / Beneficial Use. Research on existing disposal areas if alternate needed to Cherrystone	\$50,000
Permit preparation and submittal	\$18,000
Design and construction documents for bidding for Phase Two	\$43,000
Minor, Miscellaneous & Unplanned	\$20,000
Consolidate all Phase One costs/invoices submit and receive reimbursement from VPA	\$3,000
Totals: Phase One: Fiscal Year 2020	\$197,000

**The costs for Phase 2 (actual dredging), will be subject of 2020 WMF Grant Application once the Phase 1 evaluation/engineering work is completed.**



# Kings Creek Dredging – Northampton County

Approximate Project Timeline: To be determined by contract negotiations with the Prime Contractor

Phase One Activity	Approximate Project Timeframe
Grant Award Notification-Request for Quotation from Potential Phase 1 Contractors	June 1-July 1, 2019
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Thank you for your time & attention.

Shannon Alexander

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