



A-NPDC

ACCOMACK-NORTHAMPTON PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION

PO Box 417 • 23372 FRONT STREET • ACCOMAC, VIRGINIA 23301

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WEBSITE: www.a-npdc.org

Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee

Meeting Agenda

August 28, 2025 3:00 p.m.

*Enterprise Building (A-NPDC)
23372 Front Street, Accomac, VA 23301*

The Eastern Shore of Virginia Regional Navigable Waterways Committee (Navigable Waterways Committee) is a bi-county committee formed in 2015 to study and plan for navigable waterway needs. The Committee shall study and advise their respective Boards on the condition and status of all navigable waterways, list and prioritize the Shore's water navigation needs, and provide possible solutions to water transport needs. The Committee is staffed by the A-NPDC to ensure regional management approach. The Committee also works closely with the United States Army Corps of Engineers to facilitate clear communication of our dredging and waterway needs.

Virtual Attendance:

For Joining via Computer:

1. Click this link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7577872936?pwd=QTNJdmhCc3pWdVNUZ0ZWYnVjdWpWUT09>
2. If prompted, enter the Meeting ID: 7577872936
3. If prompted, enter the Passcode: 7577872936



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Meeting Agenda

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2. Public Participation

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5. ESRNWC Projects Financial Status Report..... **12**
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9. Nassawadox Creek Phase 1B – Material Management Plan..... **27**
10. USACE Response – Bradford Bay/Finney Creek Dredging Concern..... **30**
10. Norfolk District Update for the ESRNWC – 1/30/25..... **31**

11. Attachments

12. Schedule Next Meeting (Thursday October 16 @ 3pm; Enterprise Building 23372 Front Street, Accomac, VA 23301)
13. Adjourn



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee

FROM: Kellen J. Singleton
Interdisciplinary Planner
Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission

DATE: August 28, 2025

SUBJECT: **Committee Attendance Record**

Committee Attendance Record

The FY2025 Committee Attendance Records are attached.



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ATTENDANCE RECORD FY2025

Members	Term Exp.	06/2024	10/2024	01/2025	04/2025
<u>Accomack County</u>					
Donald Hart	6/30/2028	x	x	x	x
William J. "Billy" Tarr	6/30/2028	x	x		x
John Tavolaro	6/30/2027	x	x	x	x
George "Danny" Bowden	6/30/2027	x	x		x
Brenden Kettner	6/30/2026		x		
<u>Northampton County</u>					
John Coker	6/8/2027	x	x		
Dixon Leatherbury	6/8/2027				
J.T. Holland	6/8/2027	x	x	x	x
Andy Dunton, Chair	6/8/2027	x	x	x	x
Robert Harris	6/8/2027	x	x	x	x
<u>Non-Voting Ex-Officio Members</u>					
Kellen Singleton	N/A	x	x	x	x
Vacant					
	- Not a Member		X	Member Present	
	* No Meeting Held		NA	Not Applicable	
	() Alternate Present				



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee

FROM: Kellen J. Singleton
Interdisciplinary Planner
Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission

DATE: August 28, 2025

SUBJECT: **April 17, 2025 Meeting Minutes**

Please see the attached April 17, 2025 Meeting Minutes for approval.

Approval from the Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee is requested to accept the Meeting Minutes.



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Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee

Meeting Minutes

April 17, 2025

A meeting of the Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee was held on April 17, 2025, at 3:00 p.m. at the Enterprise Building, A-NPDC, 23372 Front Street; Accomack, Virginia 23301.

Members Present:

Donald Hart, Accomack
William "Billy Joe" Tarr, Accomack
John Tavolaro, Accomack
George "Danny" Bowden, Accomack
J. T. Holland, Northampton*
Robert Harris, Northampton
Andy Dunton, Northampton, Chairman

Members Absent:

Brenden Kettner, Accomack
John Coker, Northampton
Dixon Leatherbury, Northampton

Others Present:

Kellen Singleton, A-NPDC
Randy Owen, VMRC
Emily Hein, VIMS
Jen Peterman, USACE Norfolk
LT Chase Rodriguez, USCG Sector VA
BM1 Cody Coleman, USCG Chincoteague
CPO Amanda Monroe, USCG Wachapreague
Randy Owen, VMRC*
Emily Hein, VIMS*
Ira Brotman, Moffatt & Nichol*
Don Smith, Kilmon Cove*
Tom Burkett, VCR-LTER*
Mike Steelman, Seaduce, LLC*
Kim Huskey, Cherrystone*

*Participated via Zoom/Phone



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1. Call to Order

Chairman Dunton called the April 17, 2025 meeting to order at 3:00 PM and welcomed members, guests, and representatives from the United States Coast Guard (USCG) in attendance.

2. Public Participation

There was no public participation.

3. Committee Attendance Record

The Committee reviewed the FY2025 Attendance Record. Chmn. Dunton thanked members for their continued commitment to the Committee's work and acknowledged that schedule conflicts occasionally arise. Remote participation by individual members was discussed.

Mem. Tarr made the motion to adopt Code of Virginia § 2.2-3708.3. "Meetings held through electronic communication means; situations other than declared states of emergency" remote participation by individual members policy, seconded by Mem. Harris, the motion was carried.

Staff will incorporate the relevant policy language into ESRNWC By-Laws and present to the Committee at next quarterly meeting.

The group discussed upcoming term expirations on June 30, 2025. Mem. Hart and Tarr both communicated their willingness to remain on the Committee.

4. October 17, 2024 and January 30, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Adoption of the October 17, 2024 and January 30, 2025 minutes was requested. Mem. Tavolaro made the motion to adopt October 17, 2024 and January 30, 2025 minutes, seconded by Mem. Harris, the motion was carried.

5. ESRNWC Projects Financial Status Report

Staff presented the financial status of ongoing ESRNWC projects as of March 31, 2025. The following balances were reported: Kings Creek – \$993,144.77; Nassawadox Creek – \$2,189,364.25; Folly Creek – \$65,533.12; and Red Bank Creek – \$90,158.23. Staff noted that due to cost savings on the recently completed Kings Creek Phase 2 project, significant funds remain available. Staff has request VPA authorization to reallocate remaining funds to the Nassawadox Creek project due to unexpected cost increases related to the upland disposal plan at Tangier Island.



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6. January 30, 2024 Staff Report

Staff provided updates on active and upcoming projects:

Kings Creek (Phase 2): Construction concluded November 2, 2023. A total of 22,888 CY of material was removed and beneficially reused at the Cape Charles beach. Final demobilization was completed by Michel's Construction, with \$993,144.77 remaining in the project budget. A request for VPA WMF fund transference was made as part of the ANPDC's FY26 Waterway Maintenance Fund Request. Staff is awaiting VPA June 2025 determination. Administrative close-out will follow fund transference.

Nassawadox Creek (Phase 1B): Staff provided a comprehensive update on recent developments. At its January 28, 2025 meeting, the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) reviewed and denied the permit application submitted for the Nassawadox Creek dredging project, which proposed installation of six Aids to Navigation and overboard disposal of ~24,200 cubic yards of dredged material into the Chesapeake Bay. The Commission cited adverse environmental impacts from overboard disposal and the project's failure to adequately consider upland or beneficial use alternatives, including use at Tangier Island. The application must also address impacts to submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) using the VIMS 2019–2023 SAV composite layer. This shift significantly increases project costs due to the need for barge and truck transportation. Updated total costs estimates for the Tangier Upland Disposal are \$4.191M. Additional funding for the effort have been requested in the ANPDC FY26 Waterway Maintenance Fund Request and Application for FY26 Virginia Port Authority Waterway Maintenance Fund. Staff addressed and presented to the Tangier Island Town Council at their April 15, 6 PM Town Council Meeting concerning the upland disposal plan. A pre-application meeting with VMRC, VIMS, USACE, and DEQ staff is being coordinated the week of Monday, April 28 to discuss potential dredge material transport and disposal site surveying, selection, and logistics.

Mr. Brotman updated the group on material mobilization logistic planning. The timeline will be determined by future surveying as well as regulatory review and permitting. Wetland delineation and surveying are necessary to move forward. Barge unloading and capacity also will affect the implementation timeline. Mem. Tavolaro advised the insured stewardship of the material to the Town of Tangier after disposal. The group discussed the planned transfer of ownership of the material to the Town of Tangier and incorporating associated language in the permitting.

Folly Creek (Phase 1B): A draft JPA was completed, including sediment data, a draft DMMP, and permit figures. Preparation for Phase 2 and funding applications is underway.

Red Bank Creek (Phase 1B): Staff reported continued collaboration with The Nature Conservancy (TNC) on beneficial reuse opportunities to restore marsh and nesting bird habitat. The committee discussed the current dredging needs of the waterbody and available funding. Chmn. Dunton updated the group concerning Red Bank Creek's current condition and the lack of an



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immediate dredging need. Mem. Holland advised that Red Bank Phase 1B funds be transferred to the Nassawadox Creek effort.

Mem. Holland made a motion to transfer the current balance of Red Bank Phase 1B to Nassawadox Creek Phase 1B, seconded by Mem. Harris the motion was carried.

Staff will reach out to Northampton County and Waterway Maintenance Fund administration to execute transfer of funds.

Eastern Shore Dredged Material Management Initiative (VPA FY25): ANPDC staff updated the Committee on collaborative planning efforts with the Middle Peninsula PDC (MPPDC). A draft MOU is under review by MPPDC staff. Staff will draft Project Management Plan following MPPDC-ANPDC service agreement.

Staff in addition updated the committee on the Cape Henry Federal Navigation Channel Maintenance Dredging, US Coast Guard Proposed Changes Marking Metompkin Channel, and the Rocket Lab Neutron Rocket Dredging and Launch at Wallops Island which is moving forward. On March 28 US Congressional staff, Virginia General Assembly members, and state agency staff met for a project update from the Virginia Port Authority and Rocket Lab. The Virginia Port Authority-Rocket Lab requests authorization to dredge the approximately 5,300 foot long and varying width Sloop Gut Channel to a maximum depth of minus 7-feet below mean lower low water and would result in the removal of approximately 59,042 cubic yards (633,356 square feet) of dredged material.

Chmn. Dunton advised that the committee submit a media notice to the public concerning marker removal and the effect on public safety.

Mem. Harris made a motion to draft and distribute a media notice to the public concerning US Coast Guard marker removal and the effect on public safety, seconded by Mem. Harris the motion was carried.

Chmn. Dunton updated the group on the Cedar Island Project regarding the securement of a non-federal partner for the effort. The non-federal partner will be responsible for 35% of the projects funding. Chmn. Dunton will meet with Bill Frisk, TNC, concerning the topic.

Chmn. Dunn introduced Mr. Steelman, Seaduce LLC. Mr. Steelman updated the group on his efforts to secure local dredging capacity including his involvement with a previous dredge unit acquisition opportunity and current capacity to fulfill corresponding staffing demands requesting the that the committee explore the feasibility of regional dredging services private-public partnership.

The group discussed past collaborative efforts by the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission to purchase a dredge unit, the "Miss Katie" project in Dare County, North Carolina - a successful example of how collaboration between public and private entities can bring about



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essential dredging services, dredge unit maintenance costs, and current legislative efforts concerning dredging funding and capital expenditures. Committee members recommended a more thorough analysis of the financials before further planning on the subject.

Chmn. Dunton welcomed staff from the US Coast Guard in attendance. Lt. Rodriguez introduced herself to the group. Coast guardsmen updated the committee on regional maintenance schedules, available Coast Guard assets, Cape May transportation logistics, as well as public feedback and concerns including in-progress maintenance scheduled for completion next week.

Chmn. Dunton thanked the Coast Guard representatives for their responsiveness and advocacy for the region. Chief Monroe updated the group on Wachapreague Station staff numbers and scheduled mission. The group discussed Coast Guard shallow water craft assets, Wachapreague boating safety concerns prior to the Flounder Tournament and the corresponding Coast Guard maintenance efforts. Mem. Hart thanked Coast Guard representatives for their hard work and advocacy in Wachapreague.

Lt. Rodriguez advised the committee to submit Private Aids to Navigation (PATON) Joint Permit Applications as a unified committee. Chief Warrant Officer Brisson is the primary contact for USCG District Five PATON requests. Mr. Burkett requested that the committee consider submitting a waterway user input request reestablishing East-West markers out of Oyster Harbor detailing that all piling markers from the mouth to Cobb Island have been removed. Chief Monroe will investigate the issue. BM1 Coleman elaborated on the Notice to Mariners protocol if discrepancies are found. Albert Grimes is the USCG primary contact for removal list and concerns.

7. Nassawadox Creek Phase 1B – Material Management Plan

N/A

8. FY26 Waterway Maintenance Fund Request

Staff updated the committee on the \$2.0M transfer and additional funding requested in the ANPDC FY26 Waterway Maintenance Fund Request and Application for FY26 Virginia Port Authority Waterway Maintenance Fund noting that new funding is limited this year due to a Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission emergency request.



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9. Fifth District Broadcast/Local Notice to Mariners

N/A

10. Norfolk District Update for the ESRNWC – 1/30/25

Ms. Peterson, USACE, took questions concerning the Tangier Upland disposal effort and coordination opportunities with USACE. Joe McMahon is the primary contact concerning Tangier Island dredging and maintenance.

11. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for August 21, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. at the A-NPDC, 23372 Front Street, Accomac, Virginia 23301.

12. Adjournment

Mem. Tarr motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mem. Harris the motion was carried. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:46 PM.

Andy Dunton, Chairman

Kellen Singleton, Secretary



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee

FROM: Kellen Singleton
Coastal Planner
Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission

DATE: August 28, 2025

SUBJECT: **ESRNWC Projects Budget Report**

Balances as of April 17, 2025			
	Revenues	Expenditures	Balance
Kings Creek	\$ 2,537,670.48		
		\$ (1,544,525.71)	\$ 993,144.77
Nassawadox	\$ 2,362,000.00		
		\$ (192,668.41)	\$ 2,169,331.59
Folly Creek	\$ 203,500.00		
		\$ (139,333.69)	\$ 64,166.31
Red Bank	\$ 222,060.00		
		\$ (133,005.83)	\$ 89,054.17
Dredge Material Management Initiative	\$1,518,600.37		
		\$ -	\$ -

- Notes:
 - The Kings Creek project ending balance has been transferred to the Nassawadox Creek project.
 - The Nassawadox Creek project has been awarded an additional \$1.1 M in funding from the formerly VPA administered Waterway Maintenance Fund (WMF).
 - Staff is in process of working with the present WMF administration, Virginia Marine Resource Commission (VMRC) to transfer the Red Bank balance to Nassawadox Creek.



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee

FROM: Kellen J. Singleton
Interdisciplinary Planner
Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission

DATE: August 28, 2025

SUBJECT: **August 28, 2025 Staff Report**

Project Updates

Kings Creek, Phase 2 [VPA FY22]

- The Kings Creek Phase 2 project construction was completed on schedule November 2, 2023.
- The total material removed was 22,888 cubic yards (22,228 cubic yards payable) that was utilized to restore the Cape Charles Public Beach. Following AD surveys by Michel's Construction, Inc. and Waterway Surveys & Engineering, Ltd.
- Michel's has completed their demobilization from the project site. \$1,389,016.00 was invoiced for the construction.
- The \$993,058.92 remaining balance has been transferred to Nassawadox Creek dredging implementation.
- Staff is in contact with VMRC grant administration to determine next steps for administrative close-out.

Next Steps:

- Administrative close-out.

Nassawadox Creek, Phase 1B [VPA FY22]

- Moffat and Nichol have completed and submitted project JPA, signed off by Northampton County.
- DEQ has provided waiver letter. VMRC has assigned number, #23-2155. Claire Gorman in assignment.
- The USACE has acknowledged receipt, NAO-2007-02923-gdt (07-V0792, 23-V2155) (County of Northampton / Nassawadox Creek Channel Dredge / Northampton). POC is Taylor Hollingsworth
- USACE has found that the current design does not meet the terms and conditions of any General Permit available for use within Virginia. Additional information has been provided for the first step of Individual Permit evaluation which is Corps issuance of a public notice.
- At its January 28, 2025 meeting, the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) reviewed and denied the permit application submitted for the Nassawadox Creek dredging project (VMRC #2023-2155), which proposed installation of six Aids to Navigation and overboard berm disposal of ~24,200 cubic yards of dredged material into the Chesapeake Bay citing adverse environmental impacts from overboard berm disposal and the project's failure to adequately consider upland or beneficial use alternatives, including use at Tangier Island. The application must also address impacts to submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) using the VIMS 2019–2023 SAV composite layer.
- Virginia Port Authority Resolution awards \$1.1M towards completion of the project and transfers



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the remaining \$900,000 Kings Creek balance towards the effort.

- Updated total costs estimates for the Tangier Upland Disposal are \$4.191M.

Next Steps:

- A pre-permitting meeting with VMRC, VIMS, USACE, and DEQ staff will be held August 20th to share on-site wetland screening updates at the 5 potential placement sites on Tangier and discuss next permitting steps.

Nassawadox Creek, Phase 2 [VPA FY24*]

- Awarded \$2.15M* from VPA WMF FY24*
- Awarded \$1.10M from VPA WMF FY26
- Received \$.99M from Kings Creek VPA WMF FY22 Award

Next Steps:

- Complete Phase 1B
- Begin developing scope and RFP for Phase 2

Folly Creek, Phase 1B [VPA FY22]

- A draft JPA for dredging at Folly Creek has been finalized which includes (1) the JPA form, (2) DMMP – specific for Folly, (3) Gradation/Sediment data - limited to the vibracores taken in the area proposed to be dredged area, and (4) Permit Figures
- Please See Memo: **Folly Creek Phase 1B – Survey and Permits**

Next Steps:

- Provide table of APOs.
- Procure funding for Phase 2.

Red Bank Creek, Phase 1B [VPA FY22]

- The committee has moved to transfer the current balance of Red Bank Phase 1B to Nassawadox Creek Phase 1B due to deficiency of need.

Next Steps:

- Staff will reach out to Northampton County and Waterway Maintenance Fund administration to execute transfer of funds to Nassawadox Creek Phase 1B.

Eastern Shore Dredge Material Management Initiative [VPA FY25]

- On April 30, 2024 the VPA authorized \$3,048,500 in Waterway Maintenance Grant Funding (FY25) to the Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority for planning efforts to advance the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission and Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission's Dredge Material Management Initiative.
- On July 30 Staff met with Mem. Tavolaro to initiate drafting of Project Management Plan
- On November 14 staff was informed that the MPPDC and VPA had finalized MOU language and were under contract.
- As part dredged material management initiative a virtual pre-application meeting to review suggested potential placement areas of dredged material at Tangier was held on December 18, 2024. Through future shallow draft dredging projects, there may be an opportunity to assist Tangier's desire for dredged material to eventually be used beneficially. In attendance were staff and representatives from VMRC, VIMS, Moffat and Nichol, and the ANPDC.
- A service agreement has been executed between the MPPDC and ANPDC.



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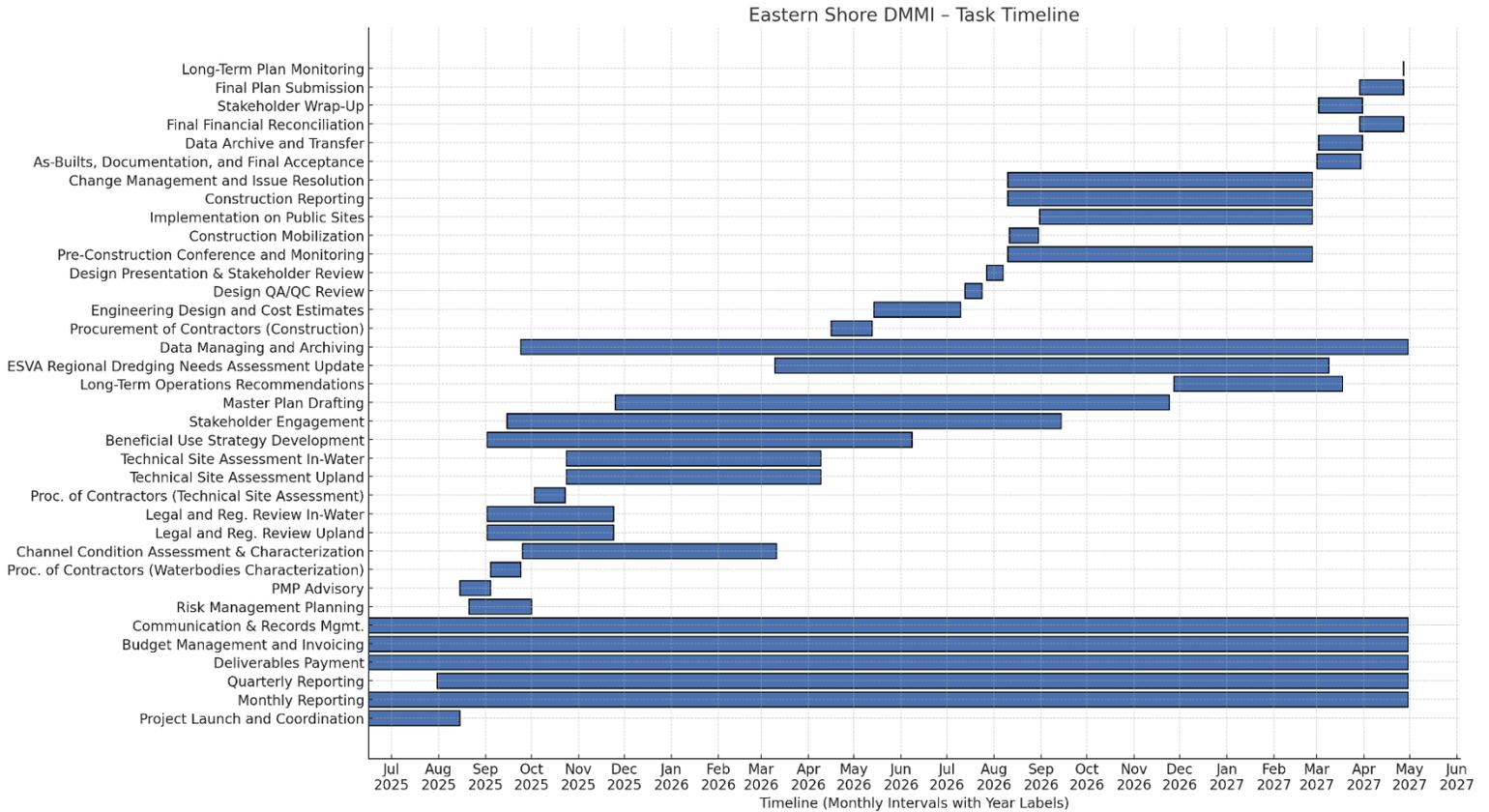
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Next Steps:

- Review and finalization of the draft Project Management Plan by ESRNWC Board members.



Other:

- **Commonwealth of Virginia Change of Process for JPA:** Effective September 2, 2025, the process for submitting joint permit applications affecting aquatic resources in the Commonwealth of Virginia will change. Beginning on this date, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) will assume responsibility as the central clearinghouse for joint permit applications requiring review by the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC), the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ), and the USACE. Accordingly, the VMRC will no longer serve in this role as of the effective date. Applicants should submit requests to the USACE using one of the following methods: Preferred: Through the web-based Regulatory Request System (RRS), available at <https://rrs.usace.army.mil/rrs> Alternate: cenao.reg_rod@usace.army.mil

Point of Contact:

Ms. Kimberly Prisco-Baggett, kimberly.a.prisco-baggett@usace.army.mil.

- **Federal Consistency Certification for the Sloop Gut Dredging Project, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Accomack County, DEQ 25-049F :** The Virginia Port Authority and Rocket Lab USA (co-applicants) are applying for an individual permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403) for impacts associated with the proposed Sloop Gut Dredging Project which is designed to facilitate delivery of a



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series of Neutron Rocket components to their Wallops Island facility in Accomack County, Virginia. The co-applicants are proposing to dredge the approximately 5,300 foot long and varying width Sloop Gut Channel to a maximum depth of minus seven (-7) feet below mean lower low water. The proposed project will result in removal of approximately 59,042 cubic yards (633,356 square feet) of dredge material. This channel opens in the Narrows and ends at Old North Dock. The dredged channel will allow for a delivery sequence of overweight rocket components on barges and tug vessels. Dredged material will then be transported via barge to Weanack Land LLC in Charles City County, Virginia, for disposal at their approved upland Dredge Material Management Area (DMMA). The purpose of the project is to establish a deeper navigation channel to reliably deliver Neutron rocket structures to meet the launch cadence requirements for these larger rockets at the MARS facility (located on Wallops Island) as well as increase the site's ability to support national launch capacity needs. Based on DEQ review of the FCC and the comments submitted by agencies administering the enforceable policies of the CZM Program, DEQ concurs that the proposal is consistent with the CZM Program provided that prior to implementation of the project all applicable permits and approvals are obtained.

- **US Coast Guard Proposed Changes Marking Metompkin Channel, Oyster Harbor, and Wachapreague** have been posted in a Fifth District Broadcast/Local Notice to Mariners. A significant number of daybeacons and buoys are proposed and/or planned to be removed, discontinued at or around September 29th from the Metompkin Channel in addition the Committee has been asked to consider submitting a Waterway User Input Form to the U.S. Coast Guard requesting the reestablishment of West-to-East markers out of Oyster and the addition of navigational aids from Oyster Harbor through Sand Shoal Channel to Sand Shoal Inlet. Local Coast Guard stations support reestablishing the West-to-East markers but require evidence of public need to justify federal funding for these aids. Highlighting the importance of this waterway for both counties—including aquaculture, research, recreation, and safe navigation—will be critical. The form should be sent to CGD5waterways@uscg.mil and Jason Brisson (jason.m.brisson@uscg.mil), who will represent these requests to the 5th District. The Committee may also wish to discuss ways to encourage public participation, such as sharing information in a local newspaper.
- **A Staff Bylaw Review and Update** is underway that is incorporating the adopted remote participation policy, consistent with Code of Virginia § 2.2-3708.3, into the ESRNWC Bylaws. These revisions, along with other functional updates, will be presented at the next quarterly meeting.



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Project Check-Ins

1. Nassawadox/Folly Project Check ins: first Wednesdays of the month at 3PM
2. HOW TO JOIN (same for both project check ins & same each month)

- **Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89457025520?pwd=Q1ErS0xVQ2R4L1BSL0JqQnBmVDBmUT09>

Meeting ID: 894 5702 5520

Passcode: 7577872936

Call In to Zoom Meeting

Call: 1-646-558-8656

Upon prompt, enter Meeting ID: 89457025520#

Upon prompt, enter Passcode: *757



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee

FROM: Kellen J. Singleton
Interdisciplinary Planner
Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission

DATE: August 28, 2025

SUBJECT: **FY26 Waterway Maintenance Fund Grant**

FY26 WMF Requests and Funding Authorization

- On Thursday, February 13, 2025, the Virginia Port Authority hosted a meeting for localities to present new project requests and/or provide updates on existing projects under the Waterway Maintenance Fund Program. A written Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission Application for FY 26 Virginia Port Authority Waterway Maintenance Fund was provided to VPA staff on March 1.
- Staff has formally requested the transference of the remaining \$993,144.77 King's Creek, Phase 2 funds to be reallocated to Nassawadox Creek dredging implementation and \$1,100,000.00 in funding to fully implement the completion of the Nassawadox Creek Dredging & Tangier Upland Disposal Project. Staff provided a statement of need and urgency, total project cost, timeline and phases of project, feasibility of the proposed planning and/or dredging project, status of any necessary permits, the adequacy of the applicant's project management, the potential beneficial use of dredged materials for the purpose of mitigation of coastal erosion, flooding or other purposes, potential beneficial impact to the community, and total amount of funding being requested. Please See: **Nassawadox Creek Dredging & Tangier Disposal – Northampton Approximate Project Costs**
- The April 2025 VPA Resolution 25-12 authorizing Waterway Maintenance Grant funding for Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission, up to \$1,100,000 to finalize permits and advance the dredging needs of Nassawadox Creek as well as authorizing the County of Northampton transference of up to \$993,144.77, which was previously awarded in Fiscal Year 2022 for Kings Creek, to the County of Northampton for dredging activities associated with Nassawadox Creek. Please See: **VIRGINIA PORT AUTHORITY RESOLUTION 25-12** below



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VIRGINIA PORT AUTHORITY RESOLUTION 25-12

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING WATERWAY MAINTENANCE GRANT FUNDING (FY25) TOTALING AN ESTIMATED \$1,419,500 to the Accomack-Northampton PDC, Northern Neck PDC, and Town of Wachapreague

WHEREAS, in May 2018, the Virginia General Assembly established the Virginia Waterway Maintenance Grant Program, to be administered by the Virginia Port Authority, in order to support shallow draft dredging projects throughout the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Virginia Port Authority adopted a Policy on Grants to Local Governments for Financial Assistance for Dredging Activities (Virginia Waterway Maintenance Grant Program) on July 24, 2018; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Virginia Waterway Maintenance Grant Policy, the following entities have applied for grants for the purposes indicated:

Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission, up to \$1,100,000 to finalize permits and advance the dredging needs of Nassawadox Creek.

Northern Neck Planning District Commission, up to \$240,000 to complete the final design and bid documents for dredging Little Wicomico River channel.

Town of Wachapreague, up to \$106,000 to advance the dredging of the Town's Marina and excavation to the approved dredge spoil site.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Virginia Port Authority that:

1. Grants will be made in the individual amounts and for the purposes indicated above.
2. Funds will be made available following the approval of certified requisitions which are accompanied by supporting documentation provided to the Virginia Port Authority as provided for in the Waterway Maintenance Fund Grant Policy.
3. The grantees are required to return any unused funds from these grants to the Virginia Port Authority.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that:

The **County of Northampton** will transfer up to \$993,144.77, which was previously awarded in Fiscal Year 2022 for Kings Creek, to the **County of Northampton** for dredging activities associated with Nassawadox Creek.



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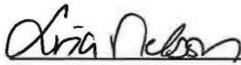
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PASSED AND ADOPTED this 29th day of April, 2025.



Aubrey L. Layne, Chairman

Attest:



Lisa Nelson, Secretary to the Board



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee

FROM: Kellen J. Singleton
Interdisciplinary Planner
Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission

DATE: August 28, 2025

SUBJECT: **Waterway Maintenance Fund Administrative Transference**

On July 1st the Administration of Waterway Maintenance Fund was transferred from the Virginia Port Authority (VPA) to the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) based on budget language passed during this year's General Assembly Session:

<https://budget.lis.virginia.gov/amendment/2025/1/HB1600/Introduced/CR/451/1c/>

Joseph Grist, Deputy Commissioner Virginia Marine Resources Commission is the point of contact for the transition effort.

VMRC has released draft program guidelines that largely mirror the prior VPA policy but contain some notable differences from the enabling legislation (§ 28.2-108.2). Among the key issues: (1) the draft omits the statutory allowance for dredging privately owned bottoms when a locality holds a 25-year lease; (2) it retains “sole discretion” language that could override the statutory evaluation criteria; (3) it gives “special consideration” to projects with a 3:1 funding match, potentially disadvantaging smaller localities; (4) it adds a “no competitive disadvantage to public ports” test not in statute; and (5) wording on “conducted by the Commonwealth” may limit eligibility for locality-led and federal-sponsor projects. Together, these provisions risk steering resources toward larger federal partnership projects and away from small, rural coastal communities whose navigation needs are most acute. Please See: **§ 28.2-108.2. Virginia Waterway Maintenance Grant Program** and **VMRC WMF Proposed Guidelines July 2025** below.



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Code of Virginia

Title 28.2. Fisheries and Habitat of the Tidal Waters

Subtitle I. General Provisions Relating to Marine Resources Commission

Chapter 1. Administration

Article 2. Support Activities

§ 28.2-108.2. Virginia Waterway Maintenance Grant Program

A. Once each fiscal year, the Commission shall award a grant of funds to a qualified applicant or applicants to support a dredging project or projects that have been approved by the Commission. The source of the grant funds shall be the Virginia Waterway Maintenance Fund continued pursuant to § 28.2-108.1. Applicants shall be limited to political subdivisions and the governing bodies of Virginia localities.

B. The Commission shall develop guidelines establishing an application process, procedures for evaluating the feasibility of a proposed dredging project, and procedures for awarding grants. The guidelines and procedures shall be exempt from the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.). The guidelines and procedures shall provide that:

1. The Commission shall evaluate each application to determine its completeness, the sufficiency of its justification for the proposed project, the status of any necessary permits, the adequacy of its project management organization, and the potential beneficial use of dredged materials for the purpose of mitigation of coastal erosion, flooding, or other purposes for the common good.
2. The Commission shall not require any level of matching contributions from the applicant.
3. No award of a grant shall support any dredging project for a solely privately owned marina or dock. However, the Commission may award a grant to a political subdivision or governing body for the dredging of a waterway channel with a bottom that is privately owned if such political subdivision or governing body holds a lease of such bottom with a term of 25 years or more.
4. Prior to receipt of a grant, the applicant shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Commission establishing the requirements for the use of the grant funds.

C. Projects for which the Commission may award grant funding include (i) feasibility and cost evaluations, pre-project engineering studies, and project permitting and contracting costs for a waterway project conducted by the Commonwealth; (ii) the state portion of a nonfederal sponsor funding requirement for a federal project, which may include the beneficial use of dredged materials that are not covered by federal funding; (iii) the Commonwealth's maintenance of shallow-draft navigable waterway channel maintenance dredging and the construction and management of areas for the placement of dredged material; and (iv) the beneficial use, for environmental restoration and the mitigation of coastal erosion or flooding, of dredged materials from waterway projects conducted by the Commonwealth.

2025, c. 78.

The chapters of the acts of assembly referenced in the historical citation at the end of this section(s) may not constitute a comprehensive list of such chapters and may exclude chapters whose provisions have expired.



DRAFT: JUNE 18, 2025

**VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION
POLICY ON GRANTS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FOR
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR DREDGING ACTIVITIES**

PREFACE: In May 2018, the Virginia General Assembly established the Virginia Waterway Maintenance Fund for the purpose of supporting shallow-draft dredging projects throughout the Commonwealth. The source of the grant funds shall be the Virginia Waterway Maintenance Grant Fund. In March 2025, the Virginia General Assembly transferred the administration of the Virginia Waterway Maintenance Grant Program and Fund from the Virginia Port Authority to the Virginia Marine Resources Commission, with an effective date of July 1, 2025. The Virginia Marine Resources Commission finds it necessary and in the public body interest, and pursuant to its statutory responsibility, to establish the Virginia Waterway Maintenance Grant Program Guidelines. This policy shall be as follows:

I. DEFINITIONS

- a. Applicant – refers to the political subdivision and the governing bodies of Virginia localities
- b. Study – refers to feasibility and cost evaluations, pre-project engineering studies, and project permitting and contracting costs for a waterway project conducted by a political subdivision of the Commonwealth.
- c. Carryover Funds – refers to unused funds for awarded projects. Funds must be reapplied for each year.
- d. Dredging – refers to the removal of sediments and debris from the bottom of lakes, rivers, harbors, and other water bodies.
- e. Items of Local Cooperation – include specific requirements on the applicant for implementation of a federal, state or local project. Such items include but are not limited to lands, easements, rights-of-way, relocations, dredge material disposal sites, and cash contributions.
- f. Beneficial Use – refers to innovative uses and placement alternatives for dredge materials that produce public, economic or environmental benefits.
- g. Shallow draft dredging – refers to rural coastal waterways that have recognized and established navigable channels that are pivotal to the use and enjoyment of docks, marinas, boat yards and working waterfronts. Shallow draft dredge areas can be



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categorized as primary, secondary (including smaller tributaries and marked and unmarked channels) having a water depth of 14-feet or less.

II. ADMINISTRATION

The following elements will guide the application, allocation, and distribution of the Virginia Waterway Maintenance Fund:

a. FOR ALL PROJECTS FOR WHICH VIRGINIA WATERWAY MAINTENANCE GRANT FUNDS ARE REQUESTED:

i. The Virginia Marine Resources Commission will serve as the responsible agency for administering the Virginia Waterway Maintenance Grant Fund.

ii. Funds will be used to support:

1. Feasibility and cost evaluations, pre-project engineering studies, and project permitting and contracting costs for a waterway project conducted by a political subdivision of the Commonwealth.

2. The state portion of a nonfederal sponsor funding requirement for a federal project, which may include the beneficial use of dredged materials that are not covered by federal funding.

3. The Commonwealth's maintenance of shallow-draft navigable waterway channel maintenance dredging and the construction and management of areas for the placement of dredged material.

4. The beneficial use, for environmental restoration and the mitigation of coastal erosion or flooding, of dredged materials from waterway projects conducted by a political subdivision of the Commonwealth.

iii. For a project to be eligible for funds, the Virginia Marine Resources Commission, in its sole discretion, must determine that the proposed project is economically feasible based on pre-planning study or current level of business, will not directly competitively disadvantage existing publicly owned port facilities, and will further the interests of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Development and presentation of the information needed to determine project eligibility will be the responsibility of the applicant.

iv. Requests for funding and their disposition shall be made by February 1st. Applicants may be required to make oral presentation of the requests to the Virginia Marine Resources Commission Board. Funds will be allocated by



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the Virginia Marine Resources Commission at its April Board meeting and available for successful applicants by July 1st of that year.

- v. Application Guidelines: The applicant shall submit a completed application to the Virginia Marine Resources Commission that contains the following information: statement of need and urgency, total project cost, timeline and phases of project, feasibility of the proposed planning and/or dredging project, status of any necessary permits, the adequacy of the applicants project management, the potential beneficial use of dredged materials for the purpose of mitigation of coastal erosion, flooding or other purposes, potential beneficial impact to the community, and total amount of funding being requested.
- vi. Prior to the receipt of a grant, the applicant shall enter a memorandum of understanding with the Virginia Marine Resources Commission establishing the requirements for the use of grant funds.
- vii. Disbursements: The applicant shall submit a requisition to the Virginia Marine Resources Commission for payment. The requisition shall be accompanied by supporting invoices or other documentation as well as a certification of the applicant that the work has been performed or that payment is otherwise properly due. The requisition shall further set forth the name of the person or entity to whom payment is to be made, the amount of payment, and the project for which the payment is to be made. Requisitions may be submitted quarterly or at the completion of the project. When the project is completed, the applicant shall certify its completion date to the Virginia Marine Resources Commission.
- viii. Requests not made within the schedule of Paragraph 4 above, shall be considered only when accompanied by a statement declaring the need for funds an emergency, with consequences of non-funding clearly specified, or a statement explaining why the schedule in Paragraph 4 above could not be met. Requests must be received no later than three weeks prior to the next regular Virginia Marine Resources Commission Board meeting to be considered at that meeting.



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- ix. The Virginia Marine Resources Commission will allocate an amount appropriated by the General Assembly for projects which are judged to meet the criteria above.
 - x. The Virginia Marine Resources Commission, in its sole discretion, may allocate the total amount requested to an applicant, any portion thereof, or may decline to allocate funds for the project. These funds may not be used for any dredging project for a solely privately owned marina or dock. Additionally, special consideration will be given in the first year to applicants who can provide a 3 to 1 match for requested funds.
- b. FOR PROJECTS WITH POTENTIAL FEDERAL INTEREST
- i. Applicant must have made previous, or must make simultaneous, “application” for federal funds.
 - ii. The Virginia Marine Resources Commission recognizes that local sponsors for federal projects must agree to share with the federal government in the cost of studies and construction as a condition necessary for the initiation of federal study of the project. The Virginia Marine Resources Commission agreement to provide support necessary to allow for the initiation of any project is conditional upon the later determination of the Virginia Marine Resources Commission that the standards in II.a.iii above are met and that the funds are available.
 - iii. The Virginia Marine Resources Commission shall be given the opportunity to review and comment on all cost sharing agreements between the local sponsor and federal government prior to releasing any funds.
 - iv. If undertaken prior to the receipt of federal funds, but for which federal funds are committed, projects must be completed within the time frame determined reasonable by the Corps of Engineers in project studies.
- c. FOR NON-FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECTS
- i. There will be no financial contribution requirement for the applicant.



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee

FROM: Kellen J. Singleton
Interdisciplinary Planner
Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission

DATE: August 28, 2025

SUBJECT: **Nassawadox Creek Phase 1B – Material Management Plan**

- At its January 28, 2025 meeting, the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) reviewed and denied the permit application submitted for the Nassawadox Creek dredging project (VMRC #2023-2155), which proposed installation of six Aids to Navigation and overboard berm disposal of ~24,200 cubic yards of dredged material into the Chesapeake Bay citing adverse environmental impacts from overboard berm disposal and the project's failure to adequately consider upland or beneficial use alternatives, including use at Tangier Island. The application must also address impacts to submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) using the VIMS 2019–2023 SAV composite layer.

Tangier Upland Dredge Material Placement

- Tangier Island officials working with staff and project engineers have identified five potential upland sites that were presented and reviewed by VIMS, VMRC, and USACE staff in a December 18, 2024 Pre-Application meeting as part of an effort to identify sustainable dredge material management solutions for the region.
- ANPDC staff and project engineers are in process of revising the current permit application to reflect an upland disposal effort on the island. The revised material management plan now prioritizes transporting dredged material by barge for beneficial use placement at Tangier Island.
- The decision to relocate material to Tangier Island upland placement sites ensures compliance with state and federal regulatory frameworks with total estimated project cost to \$4.191 million.
- Staff updated and coordinated with the Tangier Island Town Council at their April 15, 6 PM Town Council Meeting concerning the upland disposal plan.
- A pre-permitting meeting with VMRC, VIMS, USACE, and DEQ staff was held Tuesday, April 29th to discuss potential dredge material transport and disposal site surveying, selection, and logistics in which it was determined that a wetland delineation of the prospect sites were needed.
- Roth Environmental, LLC performed wetland walkovers on the five study areas to determine the extent of wetlands and/or tidal waters within them. The results will be provided by the project engineer, Moffat and Nichol
- A follow up pre-permitting meeting with VMRC, VIMS, USACE, and DEQ staff will be held August 20th to share on-site wetland screening updates at the 5 potential placement sites on Tangier and discuss next permitting steps.
- Due to the future public utilization of the material, further sediment analyzation has been advised composing of two composite samples that will be analyzed for: moisture content, sieve wash/hydrometer, and Atterberg Limits and two composite sediment samples that will be analyzed by a NELAP Accredited Laboratory for the following analytes:



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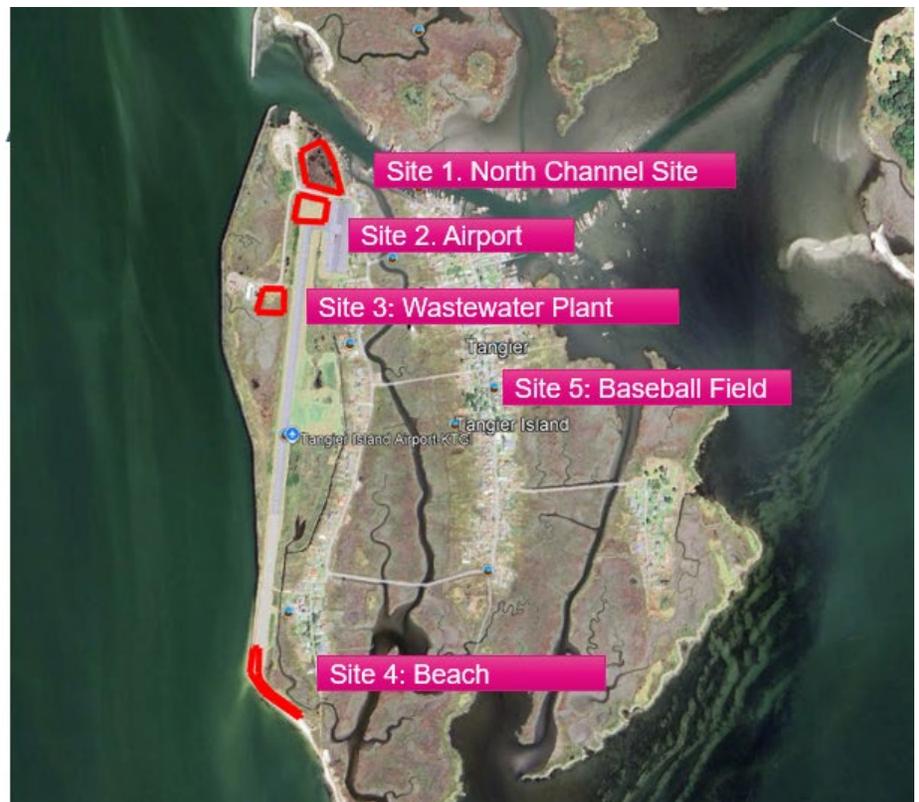
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- TAL Inorganics (Metals TAL)
- TCL Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) via EPA Method 8260
- TCL Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds (SVOCs) via EPA Method 8270D
- TCL PCBs via EPA Method 8082A
- TCL Pesticides via EPA Method 8081B
- Chlorinated Dioxins/Dibenzofurans (CDDs/CDFs) via EPA Method 8920
- Cyanide via EPA Method 9012
- TPH-GRO/DRO/ORO via EPA Method 9071
- TOC (Combustion)
- Acid/Base Accounting (with Sulfur)
- Specific Conductance
- pH

Tangier Island Upland Placement

- › Need ~24,000 CY of capacity at Tangier
- › 5 Upland sites screened:
 - › **Site 1:** North Channel Site
 - › **Site 2:** Site north of airport
 - › **Site 3:** Area adjacent to the wastewater treatment plant
 - › **Site 4:** Beach area, expanded
 - › **Site 5:** Baseball Field
- › Tangier ~26-mile one-way from Nassawadox Creek





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Nassawadox Creek Dredging & Tangier Disposal – Northampton Approximate Project Costs

Nassawadox Creek Dredging & Tangier Disposal – Northampton Approximate Project Costs: To be determined by contract negotiations with the Prime Contractor	
<u>Dredging Activity</u>	<u>Cost Estimate</u>
Mobilization/Demobilization	\$679,199
Unit Cost • 6' MLW + 1-foot allowable over depth (24,200 CY)	\$72 per cubic yard = \$1,745,776
Truck Mobilization	\$109,256
Truck Haul	\$406,832
Subtotal	\$2,941,063
Contingency (25%)	\$735,266
Construction Subtotal	\$3,676,328
Permitting, Engineering, and Design (8%)	\$294,106
Project Planning & Administration (6%)	\$220,580
TOTAL	\$4.191M

The total estimated cost for the Nassawadox Creek Dredging & Tangier Upland Disposal Project is \$4.191 million, accounting for all necessary activities, contingencies, and administrative requirements. The project begins with mobilization and demobilization, which is projected to cost \$679,199, ensuring that equipment and resources are properly deployed and removed upon project completion. The dredging itself will involve the removal of 24,200 cubic yards (CY) of material, at a unit cost of \$72 per CY, amounting to \$1,745,776.

To facilitate the upland placement of dredged material at Tangier Island, additional transportation logistics are required. Truck mobilization costs are estimated at \$109,256, with truck hauling expenses projected at \$406,832, bringing the subtotal for direct dredging and transport activities to \$2,941,063. Given the complexity of the operation—particularly barge transport, offloading, and site preparation—a 25% contingency has been allocated, totaling \$735,266, to address unforeseen conditions and ensure flexibility in execution. This brings the construction subtotal to \$3,676,328.

Beyond construction, permitting, engineering, and design costs are projected at \$294,106 (8% of the total budget), covering essential planning, regulatory compliance, and technical assessments. Additionally, project planning and administration costs have been allocated at \$220,580 (6% of the total budget) to ensure effective coordination, oversight, and fiscal management throughout the project's duration. Altogether, these components bring the total estimated project cost to \$4.191 million.



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee

FROM: Kellen J. Singleton
Interdisciplinary Planner
Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission

DATE: August 28, 2025

SUBJECT: **USACE Response – Bradford Bay/Finney Creek Dredging Concerns**

At the request of Mr. John Joeckel, Norfolk District USACE responded to concerns about the 2024–2025 dredging at Bradford Bay/Finney. While the project was closed as compliant, concerns remain about adequacy of depth/width and long-term navigability.

The District states the contractor met the contract requirement of restoring a 6' maintained depth, though work was delayed and not all channel sections were dredged. Areas identified as below depth were considered minor, with USACE expecting natural processes to level them. Equipment issues were acknowledged but deemed not disqualifying.

USACE indicated it will continue condition surveys, pursue funding for future maintenance dredging as needed, and improve communication with local sponsors and stakeholders. Key takeaways:

- Performance: USACE maintains the contractor met the contract's requirement of restoring the 6' maintained depth, though work extended six months beyond schedule.
- Channel Coverage: The contractor was not required to dredge the full channel length; only specified areas shoaled above 6' were included.
- Survey Issues: Some areas remain shallow, but USACE considers them minor and expects natural processes to level them.
- Equipment: Equipment was deemed capable, though not optimal. Breakdowns delayed work.
- Future Actions: USACE will continue condition surveys and seek funding for subsequent maintenance cycles.
- Communication: USACE acknowledged room to improve communications with local sponsors and stakeholders.



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MEMORANDUM

TO: Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee

FROM: Jeff Swallow, GISP
Chief, Operations Branch
Norfolk District

DATE: August 28, 2025

SUBJECT: **Norfolk District Update ESRNWC**

Norfolk District Update for the ESRNWC – 8/21/25

Please see below the August 21, 2025 Norfolk District Update for the ESRNWC.



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U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS NORFOLK DISTRICT

Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee

Status Update for 21 August 2025

Norfolk District Civil Works Program updates on Projects currently under development

Chincoteague Inlet Federal Navigation Project:

Chincoteague Inlet received \$3,375,000 in FY2023 Congressional appropriations and \$1,370,000 in FY2024 Congressional appropriations and scheduled to receive \$750,000 in FY2025 President's Budget.

Maintenance dredging utilizing the dredge Murden was not performed in the Spring 2025 due to scheduled shipyard repairs. The team anticipates the repair work to be completed during the Summer 2025 and the dredge return to Chincoteague Inlet to perform its scheduled maintenance dredging of the channel in mid-October. Dredging is scheduled to coincide with the opening of the Fall commercial trawler fishery.

Multi-year project appropriations will be used for a full scope maintenance dredging contract including portions of the inner channel and outer bar to project authorized depths. The Corps will continue its collaboration with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), National Park Service and Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge to beneficially place suitable material at one of their designated restoration sites surrounding Toms Cove. The Corps received confirmation in May 2024 that U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service grant proposal was accepted and is scheduled to receive funds through the NOAA transformational funding program. The initial scoping meeting occurred in June 2024 and the project kickoff meeting occurred on 10 October 2024 and included Ducks Unlimited, NOAA, USFWS, and USACE agency partners to discuss next steps towards project development. The Project Management Plan, project execution schedule and interagency agreement to transfer funds between agencies are currently in development.

Chincoteague Harbor of Refuge Federal Navigation Project:

Chincoteague Harbor of Refuge received \$250,000 in FY2023 Congressional appropriations.

Maintenance dredging of the harbor's entrance channel utilizing the dredge Murden is scheduled to coincide with the Chincoteague Channel dredging event in late Summer 2025.

Quinby Channel Federal Navigation Project:

Quinby Channel received \$2,917,000 in FY2023 and \$3,250,000 in FY2025 Congressional appropriations.

The NAO project team and Engineering Research Development Center (ERDC) continue working together to determine if the Peeler Point overboard site is a dispersive or non-dispersive source of dredged sediments redepositing into the Quinby Creek navigation channel. Draft findings will be provided in the form of a letter report tentatively scheduled for September 2025. The study scope was expanded to include Bradford Bay, Chincoteague Inlet, and Lewis Creek overboard placement areas.

FY2023 and FY2025 appropriations will be used for a full scope maintenance dredging contract of the Quinby Creek landing and entrance channel to restore the project to maintained depths. The



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U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS NORFOLK DISTRICT

Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee

Status Update for 21 August 2025

VMRC permit is currently under consideration by the state agency. Pending approval, the project is scheduled to be ready for advertisement in January, 2026.

Waterway on the Coast of Virginia (WCV) Federal Navigation Project:

WCV received \$4,975,000 in FY2023 Congressional appropriations.

The Norfolk District awarded a contract to Next Generation Logistics, LLC on 28 March 2024 in the amount of \$1,686,025.00. An additional quantities modification including a 27-day extension to the period of performance was awarded on 6 September 2024 for a total contract amount of \$2,340,439.75. The maintenance dredging work started in September 2024 with a period of performance ending on 6 November 2024, with final completion on 4 May 2025, restoring the Bradford Bay and Finney Creek channel elements to a maintained depth of -6 feet MLLW.

The Norfolk District is currently moving forward with the development of plans and specifications of the maintenance dredging of the Lewis Creek Federal Navigation Project (will be combined with Chincoteague Inlet maintenance dredging).

Parker Creek Accomack County, Virginia Federal Navigation Project:

Parker Creek Accomack County, Virginia received \$3,544,000 in FY2023 Congressional appropriations.

These funds are being used to evaluate placement site options, local cooperation agreement, initiate field evaluations, perform design, environmental coordination and authorizations, plans and specifications, real estate, solicitation, contract award and dredging.

Tangier Channels Federal Navigation Project:

The Baltimore Harbor and Channels Civil Works O&M project received \$300,000 in FY2023 Congressional appropriations to evaluate beneficial use of dredged material at Tangier Island, VA. As part of the evaluation process, the ESRNWC and Town of Tangier Island, VA will be asked to participate and provide input.

The Tangier Island Federal Navigation Project received \$2,884,000 in FY2023 Congressional appropriations to design, perform environmental coordination, and develop plans and specifications for a maintenance dredging contract. The Project received \$500,000 in FY2024 Congressional appropriations to develop a dredged material management plan (DMMP). The DMMP will inform design, plans and specifications, and acquisition of environmental authorizations for a beneficial use project. The Project received \$10,300,000 in FY2025 Congressional appropriations for design, environmental authorizations, plans and specifications and administration of the beneficial use project. The FY2025 amount includes \$300,000 for the use of Government Plant to remove critical shoaling.

The project team is working with the Engineering Research and Development Center to model the optimal placement of geotextiles along the western shoreline of the Uppards to continue the useful life of the designated placement site.



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U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS NORFOLK DISTRICT

Eastern Shore Regional Navigable Waterways Committee

Status Update for 21 August 2025

Little Machipongo River Federal Navigation Project:

Little Machipongo River received \$2,200,000 in FY2023 and \$3,000,000 in FY2025 Congressional appropriations.

These funds will be used to evaluate the Government furnished placement site, initiate field evaluations, perform design, environmental coordination and authorizations, plans and specifications, real estate, solicitation, contract award and dredging.

The design team has completed topographic survey data collection of the upland placement site in addition to modelling and analysis of the data to determine the extent of earthwork required to achieve sufficient dredge material capacity. The earthwork and grading required for the placement site dikes has been identified to achieve sufficient capacity and will be incorporated into design plans. Environmental evaluation and coordination with appropriate permitting agencies are in progress.

Contract award being pursued will consist of clearing and grubbing of vegetation within the containment area, earthwork to build and restore dike stability and capacity for dredge material of the channel and turning basin, grading within the cell for adequate flow and dredging of the federal channel.

Deep Creek Accomack County, Virginia Federal Navigation Project:

Deep Creek Accomack County, Virginia received \$4,275,000 in FY2023 Congressional appropriations.

These funds will be used to evaluate placement site potentials, local cooperation agreement, initiate field evaluations, perform design, environmental coordination and authorizations, real estate, plans and specifications, solicitation, contract award and dredging.

Project delivery team is evaluating the best option for placement site of dredge material. The land provided by the non-federal sponsor appears to consist of wetlands that will not support construction of an upland placement site of dredge material, and other avenues are being explored to include marsh elevation enhancement, wetland creation, and beach placement options.

The design team has completed the sediment sampling event and associated soil classification appears to indicate substantial presence fine sediment material within the channel. The design team has identified marsh elevation enhancement as the primary option for dredge material placement given the results of the dredge material classification. Design team is refining target areas for placement, pursuing coordination with property owners and elevation surveys of the desired placement areas. Field investigation and real estate coordination will be used to implement design plans.

Starlings Creek, Virginia Federal Navigation Project:



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Starlings Creek, Virginia received \$1,705,000 in FY2023 Congressional appropriations.

These funds will be used to refurbish the project's upland placement site in anticipation of a future dredging contract. More specifically, the funds will be used to evaluate the designated confined upland placement site, initiate field evaluations, perform design, provide environmental coordination, secure any necessary authorizations, develop plans and specifications, and progress the project to solicitation and contract award. The contract has been solicited, and the bid opening is scheduled for 29 August 2025 with an anticipated contract award in November 2025.

Onancock River, Virginia Federal Navigation Project:

Onancock, Virginia received \$700,000 in FY2023 Congressional appropriations.

These funds will be used to identify potential shoals for maintenance dredging with the USACE dredge Murden. The team anticipates the work to be completed in late Spring of 2026. Environmental recently submitted a new joint permit application package to renew its subaqueous permit for overboard placement of dredged material.

Cedar Island, CAP, Section 204, Beneficial Uses of Dredged Material:

The purpose of the project is to beneficially use the dredged material from the Finney Creek Channel and the Bradford Bay Channel for enhancement, expansion, and protection of the Cedar Island back-barrier shoreline wetlands and marsh islands. The thin-layer spraying will be done via a hydraulic cutterhead dredge equipped with a pipeline that will spray the material from the Federal navigation sites. Total Project costs are estimated at \$11,258,000, which are to be cost shared on a 65 percent Federal and 35 percent non-Federal basis. The USACE North Atlantic Division concurred with the Norfolk District's recommendation on 24 October 2019 concluding the feasibility phase of the project. Next phase is design and implementation phase, which requires a non-Federal Sponsor. A non-Federal sponsor for Letter of Intent and cost share is required for the Norfolk District to submit the Design/Implementation phase for budget consideration.

General Investigation Studies:

Chincoteague Island, Chincoteague, VA Flood Risk Management General Investigations (GI) Feasibility Study.

Study authority is provided by Section 1201(27) of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-322) which states (27) CHINCOTEAGUE ISLAND, VIRGINIA. Project for hurricane and storm damage reduction, navigation, and ecosystem restoration, Chincoteague Island, Virginia. The town of Chincoteague is the non-Federal sponsor, has provided a letter of support and has secured a cost share. The Norfolk District continues to submit the feasibility study for budget consideration. The Norfolk District received an updated letter of intent in support of the study dated 05 June 2025, from Chincoteague Town Manager Michael T. Tolbert.

Tangier Island, VA Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration GI Feasibility Study.

Study authority is provided by Section 1201 under America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018



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(Public Law 115-270) to evaluate (10) TANGIER ISLAND, VIRGINIA. Project for flood risk management and ecosystem restoration, Tangier Island, Virginia. A non-Federal sponsor for Letter of Intent and cost share is required for the Norfolk District to submit the study for budget consideration.

Construction General:

Tangier-Pocomoke Sound, Chesapeake Bay Oyster Recovery Program.

Study authority provided by Section 704(b) of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986, as amended (Public Law 33 USC § 2263(b)) which states the Secretary is further authorized to conduct projects of alternative or beneficially modified habitats for fish and wildlife, including but not limited to man-made reefs for fish. Such projects shall include the restoration and rehabilitation of habitat for fish, including native oysters, in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries in Virginia and Maryland, which are consistent with plans and strategies for guiding the restoration of the Chesapeake Bay oyster resource and fishery. Project is to construct nearshore, sanctuary and harvest reefs throughout the Tangier-Pocomoke Sound and along the shorelines of Tangier Island and the Town of Saxis, VA. The Norfolk District received a letter of intent from the sponsor, Virginia Marine Resources Commission, on 22 March 2024.



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USACE NORFOLK DISTRICT CIVIL WORKS PROGRAM
(Eastern Shore)

30 January 2025

Project Name	Total Appropriated FY23	Total Appropriated FY24	Total Appropriated FY25	Estimated Construction Award Schedule	Notes
Chincoteague Island, VA, New Start Feasibility	\$0	\$0	\$0	Not Applicable	Non-Federal Sponsor is the Town of Chincoteague, VA. NFS cost share portion secured; letter of intent provided. The study has been submitted for budget consideration.
Tangier Island Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration, VA, New Start Feasibility	\$0	\$0	\$0		Non-Federal Sponsor and Letter of Intent is required for USACE to submit the study for budget consideration.
Cedar Island, CAP, Section 204, Beneficial Uses of Dredged Material	\$0	\$0	\$0		Non-Federal Sponsor and Letter of Intent is required for USACE to submit the Project for budget consideration.
Chesapeake Bay Oyster Recovery Program, Tangier-Pocomoke Sound	\$7,500,000	\$6,450,000	\$0	Jun-28	Undergoing public meetings, design criteria and site selection to determine scope of first contract. An Environmental Assessment is being prepared before full designs can begin in 2026. No additional funds will be requested for this effort until FY27 when total project cost has been updated.
Chincoteague Harbor of Refuge, VA	\$250,000	\$0	\$0	Not Applicable	Maintenance dredging was performed by the USACE dredge MURDEN
Chincoteague Inlet, VA	\$3,275,000	\$1,370,000	\$750,000	Nov-26	Includes maintenance dredging by MURDEN and full scope contract for maintenance dredging with beneficial use of dredged material at nearby NWR. Required agreement between USACE and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
Deep Creek Accomack County, VA	\$4,275,000	\$0	\$0	Nov-26	Placement site evaluation, field investigations, environmental coordination, design, development of plans and specifications is required for contract award.
Little Machipongo River, VA	\$2,200,000	\$0	\$3,000,000	Aug-26	Government furnished placement site evaluation, field investigations, environmental coordination, design, development of plans and specifications is required for contract award.
Onancock River, VA	\$700,000	\$0	\$0	Mar-26	Work to be performed by the USACE dredge MURDEN. Coarse grain material to be dredged with nearshore placement. Environmental coordination is required.
Parker Creek, VA	\$3,544,000	\$0	\$0	Feb-29	Placement site evaluation, field investigations, environmental coordination, design, development of plans and specifications is required for contract award.
Quinby Creek, VA	\$2,917,000	\$0	\$3,250,000	Jul-26	Placement site evaluation and modelling to be completed, field investigations, environmental coordination, design, development of plans and specifications is required for contract award.
Starlings Creek, VA	\$1,705,000	\$0	\$0	Oct-25	Contract to prepare the placement site for dredged material. Environmental coordination, design, development of plans and specifications is required.
Tangier Channels, VA	\$2,884,000	\$0	\$300,000	Dec-27	Includes a full scope contract for maintenance dredging and beneficial use of dredged material at nearby Beach (Northwest shoreline).
Tangier Channels Beneficial Use	\$300,000	\$500,000	\$10,000,000	Not Applicable	Perform an evaluation using dredged material from nearby Federal channel for beneficial use (BU) on Tangier Island. Focus will consider using dredged material to repair, renourish, and stabilize the shoreline. FY25 funding identified in the President's budget to be used on first element of BU construction. Includes removal of critical shoals with the USACE dredge MURDEN.
Waterway on the Coast of Virginia, VA (Lewis Creek)	\$4,975,000	\$0	\$0	Nov-26	Full scope contract for maintenance dredging Bradford Bay and Finney Creek with placement of dredged material at the nearby permitted overboard placement site (contract awarded to Next Generation Logistics, LLC for \$2,340,439.75). With remaining funding, the Lewis Creek project element will be advanced for contract award of maintenance dredging (included with Chincoteague Inlet).
TOTAL	\$34,625,000	8,320,000	17,300,000		



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