

VIRGINIA SALTWATER RECREATIONAL FISHING DEVELOPMENT FUND

SUMMARY PROJECT APPLICATION

Please complete all fields. This page should be used as a coversheet for a detailed application.

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

Virginia Marine Resources Commission
 Fisheries Management Division
 2600 Washington Avenue, 3rd Floor
 Newport News, VA 23607

PROJECT LEADER (name, phone, email):

Robert O'Reilly
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DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF EVENT:

Federal Assistance (Wallop-Breaux) Matching
 Funds Federal FY 2017

PROJECT LOCATION:

Newport News, VA

BRIEF PROJECT SUMMARY: (include a detailed description of activity as an attachment)

The Commission requests funding from the Virginia Saltwater Recreational Fishing Development Fund, to match a portion of the Sport Fish Restoration Funds (Wallop-Breaux) projected to be received in portions of Federal Fiscal Year 2017. The federal Sport Fish Restoration Act requires its funded projects to be matched with state funds at a ratio of \$3 federal to \$1 state. Previously, sources for state match have included: general funds; in kind services by the applicant; recreational and commercial license funds; and occasionally, indirect cost recoveries. General fund match monies for Sportfish Restoration grants were lost several years ago during the budget reduction process. In-kind match monies will be provided by the agencies and institutions receiving the federal grant monies.

EXPECTED BENEFITS: (Describe how your project directly benefits the average Virginia recreational angler)

The requested funding will provide the additional matching funds for important projects made possible by this federal funding. Sportfish Restoration funding is currently used to pay for the monitoring of certain fish stocks as mandated by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. Failure to monitor as prescribed by the ASMFC could result in a fishing moratorium. Proper monitoring ensures that the fisheries are managed on a sustainable basis.

SUMMARY COSTS
Requested VSRFDF Funding:

	\$ 141,541.29
Requested MFIF funding (if available):	\$ 23,590.21
Total Requested Funding (VMRC):	\$ 165,131.50

Request for funding from the VSRFDF to match FFY 2015 Federal Assistance Sportfish Restoration Funds

Background:

The Virginia Marine Resources Commission has received Federal Sport Fish Restoration Act Funds since the 1980's but has never been provided sufficient general funds to meet the matching requirements. The federal Sport Fish Restoration Act requires a 25% match, meaning that for every dollar of match money contributed, three dollars of federal funds are available for projects. In the past, VMRC has utilized a variety of sources to match the federal funds. These included \$123,000 in state general funds provided in the agency's budget. These general funds were lost several years ago during a budget reduction process and are no longer available for match funding. The Commission also requires the applicants to provide a significant portion of the match through in-kind contributions. Due to FY2014 cuts in overall Sport fish Restoration Funding, all projects are now required to maintain level funding for FY2017 and all future proposals unless otherwise notified.

Need:

At this time, only the FY2016 apportionment of federal funds is projected to be \$1,809,606 (the final apportionment has not been completed), and it is assumed that FY2017 will be level funded. This request includes match funding through FY2017 (ending September 30, 2017).

Commercial license funds and occasionally, agency indirect cost recoveries have been used for match as well. If available, the commercial license funds will be used in proportion with the historical ratio of recreational to commercial license fund match (7:1).

Each year, the necessary match from the VSRFDF has been projected up to a year in advance in order to ensure match monies would be available for the federal funding. In recent years, that match has been over-estimated, so there is an existing balance of match funding left over from FY2015 and FY2016. Because the existing balance is sufficient to match a portion of the FY2017 projects, the requested funding level of this request is less than previous years. To meet the remainder of the matching requirement of \$165,131.50, \$141,541.29 is requested from the Virginia Saltwater Recreational Fishing Development Fund (VSRFDF) and the remaining \$23,590.21 will be requested from the Marine Fishing Improvement Fund (MFIF). If there are insufficient funds in the MFIF, the full matching requirement will be sought from the VRSFDF.

Failure to match the federal apportionment will result in a loss of Federal Sport Fish (Wallop-Breaux) funds and lack of funding for one or more of the existing projects currently funded.

Objective:

To secure sufficient funding to meet the required match for the Federal Sport Fish Restoration Act apportionment for portions of FY2017.

Estimated Benefits:

Securing matching funds from the VSRFDF will prevent the loss of Sportfish Restoration funds and allow for funding of the projects listed below:

- Monitoring Relative Abundance of American Shad and River Herring in Virginia’s Rivers
- Support of Facilities to Provide Marine Finfish Ageing for Virginia
- Chesapeake Bay Multispecies Monitoring and Assessment Program (ChesMMAP)
- Estimating Relative Juvenile Abundance of Important Finfish in the Virginia Portion of Chesapeake Bay
- Evaluation of Striped Bass Stocks in Virginia: Tagging and Monitoring Studies
- Estimation of Juvenile Striped Bass Relative Abundance in the Virginia Portion of the Chesapeake Bay.

Estimated Costs:

Preliminary estimates listed below include the total cost of the remainder of the FY2016 projects, and all FY2017 projects:

VMRC Match (including existing balance)	520,259.00
VMRC In Kind Match	56,406.00
VIMS Match	385,206.00
ODURF Match	67,493.00
Projected Federal Funds FY 2016 (partial)	1,194,500.00
Projected Federal Funds FY 2017 (full)	1,828,642.00
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Total Costs for portions FY2016 and FY2017 projects:	4,052,506.00

Second Cycle 2016 Funding request:

VSRFDF portion:	\$ 141,541.29
<u>MFIF portion (if available):</u>	<u>\$ 23,590.21</u>
Total requested match:	\$ 165,131.50