

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

PROJECT LEADER (name, phone, email):

Newport News, VA 23607
 Robert O'Reilly
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DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF EVENT:

Federal Assistance (Wallop-Breaux) Matching
 Funds Federal FY 2018

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 2018. 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 fish stocks as mandated by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. Projects supported by this funding are used in fisheries assessments and to fulfill data and monitoring requirements. 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 match (VSRFDF)	\$236,828
MRC in-kind	\$56,406
VIMS match	\$218,110
ODU Match	\$69,596
Remaining Balance	\$64,506
Total required match	\$645,447

Request for funding from the VSRFDF to match FFY 2018 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 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 previous cuts in overall Sport Fish Restoration Funding, all projects are now required to maintain level funding for FY2018, and in some cases reduce the budgets in order to reduce the pressure on the VSRFDF for matching funds.

Need:

The FY2017 apportionment of federal funds is \$1,825,795. The preliminary apportionment for FFY18 will not be available until the fall; however, for planning purposes, it is assumed that it will be level funded. However, federal apportionment is variable with variations in sales from fishing equipment and vehicle registrations (predictions for the 2018 fiscal year may be provided at the October 2018 Federal Aid Coordinators meeting). Also in 2018, the survey to determine the split of funding between saltwater and freshwater users in the state will be finalized. These survey results determine the percentage of funding available to the VMRC. Commercial license funds have been used as partial map in most years; however, in 2018 no commercial license funds are expected to be available.

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 FY2018.

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:

VMRC Match	804,710.00	12.05%
VMRC In Kind Match	112,812.00	1.69%
VIMS Match	631,860.66	9.46%
ODURF Match	139,192.66	2.08%
Projected Federal Funds (FFY17 and FFY18)	<u>4,991,059.00</u>	74.72%
Total Costs	6,679,634.32	100.00%