

# 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, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
 Newport News, VA 23607

**PROJECT LEADER (name, phone, email):**

Robert O'Reilly  
 (757) 247-2236  
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**DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF EVENT:**

Federal Assistance (Wallop-Breaux) Matching  
 Funds Federal FY 2015

**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 2014. 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 Wallop-Breaux 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. Wallop-Breaux 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**

<b>Requested VMRC Funding:</b>	<b>\$ 290,507</b>
<b>Requested Commercial Fund:</b>	<b>\$ 48,418</b>
<b>Recipient Funding (VMRC):</b>	<b>\$ 56,406</b>
<b>Recipient Funding (VIMS):</b>	<b>\$ 216,406</b>
<b>Recipient Funding (ODURF):</b>	<b>\$ 61,484</b>
<b>Total Federal Match Funds:</b>	<b>\$ 673,395</b>

**Projected Federal Funds: \$1,876,224**

## **Request for funding from the VSRFDF to match FFY 2015 Federal Assistance (Wallop-Breaux) 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 monies provided to the VMRC have been as low as \$718,000 in FY 1999. Last year, the federal Sport Fish Restoration Act funding to the VMRC was reduced by 15%. The projection for FY 2015 is estimated to be similar to the FY 2014 apportionment of \$1,876,224.00. The federal Sport Fish Restoration Act required a 25% match, meaning that for every dollar of match money contributed, three dollars of federal funds are available for projects.

### **Need:**

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.

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), totaling \$48,418 in 2015.

During the 2014 fiscal year, several projects increased their budgets. These increases allowed for full staffing of several projects (Juvenile Trawl Survey and the Ageing Lab) and in some cases, additional scopes of work (River herring sampling was added to the American Shad program). Due to these changes, the total match required for FY2015 is higher than requested for FY2014. This is both to cover the additional work and staff moving forward, and to match the portions that were underestimated for FY2014 prior to those increases. Due to FY2014 cuts in overall Sport fish Restoration Funding, all projects are now required to maintain level funding for FY2015 and all future proposals unless otherwise notified.

To meet the matching requirement \$338,925, \$290,507 is requested from the Virginia Saltwater Recreational Fishing Development Fund (VSRFDF) at this time (and the remaining \$48,418 will be requested from the MFIF).

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 FY2015.

**Estimated Benefits:**

Securing matching funds from the VSRFDF will prevent the loss of federal aid (Wallop-Breaux) funds and allow for funding of the projects listed below:

- 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.
- 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
- Continued Artificial Reef Development in Virginia’s Chesapeake Bay Waters\*

\*Please note that the Artificial Reef Development project was matched using funds from a previous RFAB grant.

**Estimated Costs:**

Preliminary estimates for FY 2015 are listed below and are based on 2014 expenditures.

<b>Requested Match from VSRFDF and MFIF</b>	<b>\$ 338,925</b>
VMRC In-Kind Match	\$ 56,406
VIMS Match	\$ 216,580
ODURF Match	\$ 61,484
<u>Projected Federal Funds</u>	<u>\$1,876,224.00</u>
<b>TOTAL PROJECTS COSTS:</b>	<b>\$2,549,619</b>