VIRGINIA RECREATIONAL FISHING DEVELOPMENT FUND SUMMARY PROJECT APPLICATION*

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PRIORITY AREA OF CONCERN:	PROJECT LOCATION:
Virginia's Chesapeake Bay and Ocean waters.	Virginia's artificial reef sites.

DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF PROJECT:

2006-2007 Funding for Deployment of Artificial Reef Structure.

PROJECT SUMMARY:

\$200,000 is being requested to cover:

1- Deployment costs associated with placement of "materials of opportunity" on Chesapeake Bay and/or coastal artificial reef sites. These "materials' would include but not be limited to, demolition concrete, concrete pipe, decking, culvert and piling, Coast Guard inspected and approved steel vessels, and steel structures such as tower sections, pipe and beams.

and/or

2- Fabrication and deployment of designed habitat providing structures such as tetrahedrons and Reef Balls. Expenses would include contractor's fees for barges, marine inspection and towing, and lifting equipment as well as fabrication materials such as forms. concrete and re-bar.

EXPECTED BENEFITS:

Adding structure to reef sites develops new habitat by providing additional substrate for fouling organisms that form the basis of the food web. As the food web develops, additional plants and animals inhabit the structures and adjacent areas. This progresses to attraction of recreationally important species of finfish such as tautog, sea bass and flounder. The interior cavities, nooks and crannies of the reef structures themselves can provide refuge from would be predators as well as relief from currents and wave action, enabling fish to expend less energy. Reef materials also deflect currents which can facilitate feeding.

Providing additional habitat for recreationally desirable species of finfish increases recreational opportunity for anglers.

COSTS:

The most recent bid received by the Artificial Reef Program for deployment of concrete came in at \$21.00 per ton. Fabrication and deployment of designed structures is expected to run \$400.00 to \$450.00 each. All funding would be dedicated to material/structure acquisition and deployment related services. No reimbursement for Program expenses.

VMRC Funding:	\$2
Recipient Funding:	re
Total Costs:	

\$200,000.00 requested.

Detailed budget must be included with proposal.