VIRGINIA SALTWATER RECREATIONAL FISHING DEVELOPMENT FUND SUMMARY PROJECT APPLICATION*

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:	PROJECT LEADER (name, phone, e-mail):
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PRIORITY AREA OF CONCERN:	PROJECT LOCATION:
Research / Monitoring	Newport News, VA

DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF PROJECT:

Federal Assistance (Wallop-Breaux) Matching Funds FY 2008

PROJECT SUMMARY:

The Commission requests funding from the Virginia Marine Improvement Fund, to match a portion (\$ 358,512) of the \$ 1,888,868 in Sport Fish Restoration Funds (Wallop-Breaux) projected to be received in 2008.

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:

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.

COSTS:

Requested Match from VA Rec Fund	\$ 283,512
VMRC Match from VA Com Fund	\$ 75,000
VIMS Match	\$ 193,995
ODURF Match	\$ 74,843
Projected Federal Funds	<u>\$1,888,868</u>
TOTAL COSTS:	\$2,516,218

Detailed budget must be included with proposal.

Request for funding from the VSRFDF to match 2008 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. In the last three years, the available amounts of federal monies have increased each year. The projection for FY 2008 places the apportionment at \$1,888,868.

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. In-kind matches have totaled as much as \$260,000. Commercial license funds and occasionally, agency indirect cost recoveries have been used for match as well. Unfortunately, the combination of these alternate matching sources is insufficient to meet the projected match for FY2008. To meet the matching requirement \$283,512 is requested from the Virginia Saltwater Recreational Fishing Development Fund (VSRFDF).

Failure to match the federal apportionment will result in a loss of 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 Wallop-Breaux apportionment for FY2008.

Estimated Benefits:

Securing matching funds from the MIF and VSRFDF will prevent the loss of federal aid (Wallop-Breaux) funds and allow for the continued 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 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

Estimated Costs:

\$283,512 requested from the RFAB/VSRFDF

\$ 75,000 will be provide by the CFAB/MIF

\$193,995 will be provided by VIMS as their match.

\$ 74,843 will be provided by ODURF as their match