

Reports

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## Virginia Fishery Resource Grant Program 2014

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# Virginia Fishery Resource Grant Program 2014

Report of the Virginia Institute of Marine Science  
To the Governor and General Assembly of Virginia  
On Implementation of House Bill No. 1634 (February 6, 1999)

HOUSE DOCUMENT NO.

Commonwealth of Virginia  
Richmond  
2015



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## Executive Summary

The Virginia Fishery Resource Grant Program (VFRGP) enables members of Virginia's seafood industries to develop ideas to protect and enhance the Commonwealth's coastal and marine resources. Since its inception in 1999, the annually funded program has supported 110 projects, seven of which were approved to start in 2014. These projects enable members of seafood industries to pursue ideas for increasing efficiency and sustainability that will benefit the entire industry, without personally bearing the cost and high risk. The VFRGP is coordinated by Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Marine Advisory Services, in partnership with Virginia Sea Grant, and operates with the aid of a VFRGP Advisory Board.

## Background

Since its inception, the program has funded 110 individual one-or two-year proposals.

VFRGP was initiated by the Virginia Legislature (House Bill No. 1634) during the 1999 session to "protect and enhance the Commonwealth's coastal fishery resource through the awarding of grants in four areas:"

1. New fisheries equipment or gear;
2. Environmental pilot studies on issues including water quality and fisheries habitat;
3. Aquaculture or Mariculture of marine-dependent species; and
4. Seafood technology.

To be eligible for consideration, VFRGP proposals must involve Virginians who are active participants in a seafood industry. Involving the seafood industry (1) makes use of the experience and ideas of those who work closely with the Commonwealth's coastal and marine resources and (2) enables these individuals to develop and pursue improvements without personally bearing the cost and high risk to provide a shared industry benefit. Members of the seafood industry include those involved in commercial fishing activities related to coastal or offshore fishery resources, aquaculture/mariculture, or the processing or handling of fishery products.

## Implementation

VFRGP is managed by an Advisory Board (See Appendix A). Funds are provided to Virginia Institute of Marine Science's Marine Advisory Services (VIMS MAS). Availability of grant funds is advertised through press releases (See Appendix B) and a Request for Proposals (See Appendix C) that is distributed through developed list of industry members who have elected to receive updates about the VFRGP program as well as other channels. Proposals evaluated by members of the Advisory Board and outside reviewers, following the Principles of Operation (See Appendix D). At the end of each project, VFRGP receives a completion report. The results of those projects are used to produce informational and educational publications for distribution to industry. Additionally, project reports and results are presented at industry meetings and trade shows when appropriate.

Program implementation is coordinated by Mr. Thomas Murray, Associate Director of VIMS MAS and Leader of the Virginia Sea Grant Marine Extension Program. Staff of VIMS MAS is responsible for day-to-day management of VFRGP. The day-to-day management requires a small portion of the appropriated funds to partially support salary and operating costs, as foreseen by the enabling legislation.

This implementation structure is in accordance with the legislation that established the VFRGP.

## Program Activity and Improvement

VFRGP Advisory Board met once in Cheriton, Virginia during 2014. The meeting focused on the review of proposals submitted in response to public solicitations. Additionally, the Advisory Board meeting provided feedback and input with which to enhance overall program effectiveness. Improvements related to developing program informational materials, media exposure, and fishing industry outreach were implemented in 2014.

The Advisory Board again endorsed holding a series of public proposal development workshops at locations throughout coastal Virginia so that all potential participants may learn about the VFRGP. Such public meetings

are held between the issuance of the call for proposals and the proposal due date. Additionally, numerous individual meetings are held with industry to discuss the VFRGP and specific project ideas.

## Fiscal Summary Statement

Funds appropriated by the Legislature for 2014 totaled \$159,579 for VFRGP activity in FY 2014 proposal cycle.

Of the \$159,579 available for new VFRGP project awards in FY 2014, seven new projects were approved and initiated totaling \$157,405. In addition to the FY 2015 appropriation of \$159,579 prior year carryover funds bring the level of funding available to support the FY 2015 proposal cycle to \$161,753.

Any funds remaining after the selection of new projects in the March, 2015 proposal review will be carried forward, as called for in the enabling legislation, for use in combination with year 2015 appropriated funds, to support new projects which will be submitted in response to a Request for Proposals that is to be released in summer/fall 2015.

## Summary of 2014 Funding Period

As a result of public notifications and follow-up workshops, fishing industry members submitted a total of 25 complete VFRGP proposals. The proposal topics were quite diverse, and each project was subjected to two expert reviews from



outside the state. Once the expert reviews were received, a project evaluation and selection meeting was held, and the Advisory Board selected nine new projects for funding or for further development and negotiation.

## Projects Approved in 2014

2014-01. "Protecting Juvenile Flounder from becoming a Crab Pot By-Catch."

Michael W. Joslin, Nansemond River Seafood. (Windsor, VA)

Duration: 4/14-11/14.

Funding: \$6,000. Completed.

2014-02. "Observing Striped Bass Catch and Atlantic Sturgeon By Catch in a Striped Bass Fishery Using Raised Foot-lines."

George E. Trice. (Poquoson, VA)

Duration: 2/14-4/14.

Funding: \$14,774. Completed.

2014-03. "Testing Experimental Electro-fishing Fishery for Introduced Blue Catfish in the James River, Virginia."

George Trice. (Poquoson, VA)

Duration: 4/14-10/14.

Funding: \$21,348. Completed.

2014-12. "Early S.O.S. Setting."

J.E. Headley. (Kinsale, VA).

Duration: 3/1-9/30/14.

Funding: \$5,775. Completed.

2014-13. "Analysis of Short Term temporal variation in densities of pathogenic *Vibrio* species in Virginia Oysters."

Virginia Seafood Council. (Yorktown, VA)

Duration: 4/14-12/14.

Funding: \$66,608. Ongoing.

2014-18. "Pilot Program to evaluate new methods of efficiently processing Spiny Dog Sharks for new and established markets currently unavailable in Virginia."

Green Environments, LLC. (Portsmouth, VA)

Duration: 4/14-1/15.

Funding: \$9,000. Completed.

2014-22. "Making the Deep Sea Atlantic Red Crab Fishery a sustainable and profitable industry for Virginia."

Atlantic Red Crab Company. (Norfolk, VA)

Casey's Seafood. (Newport News, VA)

## Report of Activities During 2014

Graham and Rollins, Inc. (Hampton, VA)

Duration: 9/14-9/15.

Funding: \$33,900. Ongoing.

### Previous Projects, 1999-2013

2013-01. "Laminated Oyster Tong Shafts."

Philip N. Shahan. (Reedville, VA)

Duration: 5/13-5/14.

Funding: \$15,000. Cancelled.

2013-08. "Observing Striped Bass Catch and Atlantic Sturgeon By Catch In A Striped Bass Fishery Using Raised Footlines."

George Trice. (Poquoson, VA.)

Duration: 3/13-6/13.

Funding: \$19,706. Completed.

2013-09. "Electronic Harvest Reporting Training and Outreach."

Ken Smith, Virginia Waterman's Association (Heathsville, VA)

Duration: 7/13-9/14.

Funding: \$21,991. Ongoing.

2013-11. "Development of a Cownose Ray Market."

Meade Amory, L.D. Amory Company, Inc. (Hampton, VA)

Duration: 6/13-5/14.

Funding: \$15,000. Completed.

2013-12. "Direct Setting of Eyed Larvae: *In situ* Spat-on-Shell."

Andrew Myles Cockrell, Little Wicomico Oyster Company. (Heathsville, VA)

Duration: 6/13-12/13.

Funding: \$10,750. Ongoing.

2012-01. "Extension of Spat on Shell Season."

Shores & Ruark Seafood Company. (Urbanna, VA)

Duration: 03/12-12/12.

Funding: \$11,000. Completed.

2012-04. "Testing Raised Footlines in Virginia's Striped Bass Fishery: A Gear Based Method of Reducing Sturgeon Interactions in Anchored Gillnets."

George. E. Trice. (Poquoson, VA)

Duration: 03/12-06/12.

Funding: \$35,015. Completed.

2012-06. "Developing New Value-Added Products for Cow Nose Ray."

L.D. Amory Company, Inc. (Hampton, VA)

Duration: 06/12-04/13.

Funding: \$15,000. Completed.

2012-08. "Reduction of Crab Mortality in Seed Cages."

Purcell's Seafood, Inc. (Burgess, VA)

Duration: 04/12-12/12.

Funding: \$2,580. Completed.

2012-11. "Feasibility of a Recirculating Aquaculture System for early Larval culture of *Crassostrea virginica*."

Oyster Seed Holdings, Inc. (Grimstead, VA)

Duration: 3/12-12/12. Completed.

2012-14. "Floating Pound Net and Fish Sifter."

Arthur Bender/"Lady Barbara, Inc." (Cheriton, VA)

Duration: 04/12-11/12.

Funding: \$42,770.50. Completed.

2012-16. "Testing Scottish Seining in Virginia."

Jeff Hammer. (Accomac, VA)

Duration: 03/12-09/12.

Funding: \$16,617. Completed.

2011-04. "Developing New Value-Added Products from Cownose Ray."

Meade Amory, L.D. Amory Company. (Hampton, VA)

Duration: 06/2011 – 04/2012.

Funding: \$45,000. Completed.

2011-09. "Raised Foot-lines in Virginia's Striped Bass Gill Net Fishery; A Gear Based Method of Reducing Sturgeon Interactions."

George Trice, Commercial Fisherman. (Poquoson, VA)

Duration: 03/2011 – 05/2011.

Funding: \$30,899. Completed.

2011-16. "Dock Long Lining for Oyster Culture."

Ronald. T. Sopko, Sea Farms, Inc. (Hudgins, VA)

Duration: 04/2011-3/2012.

Funding: \$8,650. Completed.

2011-18. "Stake In the Bay."

Michael J. Gadwill, Bonum Point Fishery. (Kinsale, VA)

Duration: 04/2011- 11/2012.

Funding: \$12,910. Completed.

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2010-01. "Influence of Planting Density and Salinity on QPX Disease in *Mercenaria mercenaria* in Virginia."  
Tara Riley, Ballard Fish and Oyster Company. (Cheriton, VA)  
Duration: 04/2010-02/2011.  
Funding: \$39,026. Completed.

2010-02. "Investigation of the Beneficial Effects of Intentionally Exposing Oysters to Air During Their Normal Growing Season."  
Dennis Gryder, Briar Patch Oysters. (Hudgins, VA)  
Duration: 04/2010-12/2010.  
Funding: \$4,350. Completed.

2010-04. "Improving Gillnet Selectivity by Altering Mesh Characteristics 2010."  
Robert Weagley, Commercial Fisherman (Providence Forge, VA)  
Duration: 03/2010-06/2010.  
Funding: \$ 16,088. Completed.

2010-05. "Method and Concept Evaluation of Relaying Oysters from the Chesapeake Bay to High Salinity Water as a Post-Harvest Process to Reduce *Virbio vulnificus* to Undetectable Levels."  
Thomas Gallivan, Shooting Point Oysters, LLC. (Franktown, VA)  
Duration: 03/2010-12/2010.  
Funding: \$29,148. Completed.

2010-08. "Analysis of Tie Downs on Gillnet CPUE, Selectivity, and Bycatch Composition."  
George Trice, Commercial Fisherman. (Poquoson, VA)  
Duration: 03/2010-05/2010.  
Funding: \$29,026. Completed.

2010-12. "Development of Preventive Measures to Reduce Mortalities for Holding Live Wild-Caught Flounder in Re-Circulating Aquaculture Systems"  
Clarke Morton, Mid-Atlantic Aquatic Technology. (Quinby, VA)  
Duration: 04/2010-12/2010.  
Funding: \$8,266. Completed.

2010-13. "Hybrid Fish Capturing Device ("FCD") for Capturing Live Flounder."  
Jeffery Hammer, Accomac Aqua Farms. (Accomac, VA)  
Duration: 04/2010-07/2010.  
Funding: \$9,497. Completed.

2010-14. "Create New Gear to Increase the Efficiency of Commercial Cat Fishing."  
James A. Bristow, Commercial Fisherman. (Hayes, VA)

Duration: 03/2010-12/2010.  
Funding: \$11,273. Completed.

2010-15. "Developing New Value-Added Products from Cownose Ray."  
Meade Amory, L.D. Amory Company. (Hampton, VA)  
Duration: 07/2010-06/2011.  
Funding: \$37,000. Completed.

2009-06. "Developing New Value-Added Products from Cownose Ray."  
L.D. Amory Seafood Company. (Hampton, VA)  
Duration: 04/2009-04/2010.  
Funding: \$74,640. Completed.

2009-07. "Characterization of By-catch in Virginia's Spring Striped Bass and Analysis of Gear Alterations on CPUE and Bycatch Composition."  
George Earl Trice. (Poquoson, VA)  
Duration: 03/2009-06/2009  
Funding: \$29,696. Completed.

2009-10. "Feasibility of Producing Triploid *C. virginica* Larvae Via Thermal Heat Shock: Experimental protocol development and assessment."  
A.J. Erskine, Cowart Seafood Corp. (Hampton, VA)  
Duration: 6/2009-06/2010.  
Funding: \$13,401. Completed.

2009-12. "Channeled Whelk Assessment."  
Richard B. Robins, Jr., Bernies Conchs. (Suffolk, VA)  
Duration: 02/2009-06/2010.  
Funding: \$21,758. Completed.

2008-03. "Hedingleess Pound Net."  
William Haynie. (Reedville, VA)  
Duration: 03/2008-10/2009.  
Funding: \$19,459. Completed.

2008-04. "Commercialization Spat-on-Shell Production in Virginia."  
Thomas E. Kellum, Virginia Shellfish Growers Association. (Weems, VA)  
Duration: 05/2008-05/2009.  
Funding: \$50,300. Completed.

2008-05. "Alternative Bait Holding Devices."  
Scott Troy Hainley. (Wake, VA)  
Duration: 08/2008-12/2009.  
Funding: \$12,040. Completed.

## Report of Activities During 2014

2008-08. "Characterization of By-catch and Potential Reduction in Virginia's Spring Striped Bass and other Gillnet Fisheries."

George Earl Trice. (Poquoson, VA)

Duration: 03/2008-04/2009.

Funding: \$49,329. Completed.

2008-10. "Feasibility Study on Grow-Out of One-year market size triploid *C. ariakensis*."

Frances Porter, Virginia Seafood Council. (Newport News, VA)

Duration: 07/2008-07/2009.

Funding: \$26,530. Completed.

2008-13. "Developing Both Commodity and Niche Markets for Cownose Ray." Year II.

Meade Amory, L.D. Amory Seafood Company. (Hampton, VA)

Duration: 03/2008-02/2009.

Funding: \$50,000. Completed.

2008-14. "Improving Gillnet Selectivity by Altering Mesh Characteristics." Year II.

Robert Weagley. (Providence Forge, VA)

Duration: 10/2008-05/2009.

Funding: \$17,188. Completed.

2008-15. "Feasibility Study for a Commercial Blue Catfish Fishery."

Kenneth G. Smith, Virginia Waterman's Association. (Heathsville, VA)

Duration: 05/2008-09/2009.

Funding: \$4,055. Completed.

2007-01. "Feasibility of Converting Crab Shedding Tanks to Effectively Set Single Oyster Seed for Aquaculture and Comparison of Technique to Traditional Remote Setting Setting Practices."

A.J. Erskine, Bevans Oyster Company & Cowart Seafood Corporation. (Kinsale, VA)

Duration: 03/2007-06/2012.

Funding: \$19,000. Completed.

2007-02. "Development of Efficient Cow Nose Ray Harvesting Technology and Associated Data Collection."

Frank James West. (Hayes, VA)

Duration: 02/2007-12/2007.

Funding: \$12,146. Cancelled.

2007-03. "Improving Gillnet Selectivity by Altering Mesh Characteristics."

Robert Weagley. (Providence Forge, VA)

Duration: 02/2007-05/2007.

Funding: \$13,916. Completed.

2007-04. "Characterization of Sturgeon and Other Regulatory Discards in Virginia's Spring Striped Bass and Other Gillnet Fisheries."

George Earl Trice. (Poquoson, VA)

Duration: 02/2007-05/2007.

Funding: \$33,031. Completed.

2007-05. "Feasibility Study on Grow-Out of One-year market size triploid *C. ariakensis*." Year II.

Frances Porter, Virginia Seafood Council. (Newport News, VA)

Duration: 06/2007-07/2008.

Funding: \$24,064. Completed.

2007-06. "Developing Both Commodity and Niche Markets for Cownose Ray."

Meade Amory, L.D. Amory Company. (Hampton, VA)

Duration: 03/2007-02/2008.

Funding: \$57,000. Completed.

2007-07. "Cownose Ray Product Development."

Ronald L. Jett, Smith Point Seafood. (Reedville, VA)

Duration: 05/2007-12/2007.

Funding: \$40,500. Completed.

2006-04. "Aquaculture Training Program Needs Assessment."

S. Stickler, Rappahannock Community College. (Warsaw, VA)

Duration: 05/2006-03/2007.

Funding: \$6,700. Completed.

2006-06. "Developing an Alternative Fishery for Virginia Waterman."

Casey's Seafood, Inc. (Newport News, VA)

Duration: 05/2006-05/2007.

Funding: \$17,732. Completed.

2006-07. "Alternative Bait for Crab Pots."

L. Haynie. (Reedville, VA)

Duration: 05/2006-05/2008.

Funding: \$27,000. Completed.

2006-08. "Project Management: Economic Analysis of *C. ariakensis*."

Frances Porter, Virginia Seafood Council. (Newport News, VA)

Duration: 05/2006-07/2007.

Funding: \$50,435. Completed.



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2006-09. "Assessment of Sturgeon Bycatch, Bycatch Mortality and Other Regulatory Discard Mortality in Virginia Winter/Spring Gillnet Fisheries." Year II.

Kelly Place. (Williamsburg, VA)

Duration: 09/2005-08/2006.

Funding: \$52,039. Completed.

2005-01. "Floating Hedging."

William Haynie. (Reedville, VA)

Duration: 04/2005-09-2006.

Funding: \$19,995. Completed.

2005-03. "Feasibility Study on One-Year Grow-Out of Triploid *Crassostrea ariakensis*."

Frances Porter, Virginia Seafood Council. (Newport News, VA)

Duration: 05/2005-06/2006.

Funding: \$50,435. Completed.

2005-07. "Value of Cownose Ray: Population Size, Harvesting, Processing and Market Acceptance."

Margaret Ransone. (Kinsale, VA)

Duration: 04/2005-12/2006.

Funding: \$21,250. Completed.

2005-09. "Assessment of Sturgeon Bycatch, Bycatch Mortality and Other Regulatory Discard Mortality in Virginia Winter/Spring Gill Net Fisheries." Year I.

Kelly Place. (Williamsburg, VA)

Duration: 03/2005-08/2005.

Funding: \$39,444. Completed.

2004-02. "Whale Safe Gillnets."

David C. Walker, FV Nelson Seafood. (Chincoteague, VA)

Duration: 06/2004-06/2005.

Funding: \$8,300. Completed.

2004-03. "Intensive Culture of the Mudminnow (*Fundulus heteroclitus*) as Live Bait for Recreational Angling."

Rudy Cashwell. (Eastville, VA)

Duration: 04/2004-11/2006.

Funding: \$32,935. Terminated.

2004-07. "Sea Turtle Friendly Fish Trap."

Emory Lewis, Jr. (Fleeton, VA)

Duration: 06/2004-12/2005.

Funding: \$21,900. Completed.

2004-14. "To Develop More Efficient Mechanisms to Harvest, Handle, and Transport Catch."

Wec Terry, Terry Brothers, Inc. (Willis Wharf, VA)

Duration: 06/2004-06/2005.

Funding: \$ 30,380. Cancelled as a result of Tropical Storm Ernesto damage to facilities.

2004-10. "Alternate Methods for Haul Seine Fishery to Reduce Possible Impact on SAV Beds."

Matthew Bloxom. (Poquoson, VA)

Duration: 03/2005-12/2006.

Funding: \$4,901. Completed.

2003-01. "Validation of IQF Freezing Process to Reduce *Vibrio vulnificus* to Non-detectable Levels in Raw Oysters."

Ron Bevins & Lake Cowart. (Kinsale, VA)

Duration: 08/2003-12/2003.

Funding: \$12,000. Completed.

2003-03. "Oyster Farming Cooperative Program."

Shawn Stickler. (Wake, VA)

Duration: 01/2004-08/2004.

Funding: \$24,500. Completed.

2003-06. "Identifying the Catch Efficiency and Incidental Marine Bird Entanglements Associated with Internally Floated and Weighted Lines on Gillnets."

Millard Bryant. (Montross, VA)

Duration: 06/2003-06/2004.

Funding \$490. Not initiated at request of applicant.

2003-07. "Project Management for Virginia Seafood Council's Economic Analysis of Triploid *C. ariakensis* Aquaculture."

Frances Porter & Tom Kellum. (Newport News, VA)

Duration: 07-2003-07/2004.

Funding: \$57,976. Completed.

2003-07-2. "Project Management for Virginia Seafood Council's Economic Analysis of Triploid *C. ariakensis* Aquaculture." Year II.

Frances Porter & Tom Kellum. (Newport News, VA)

Duration: 07/2004-07/2005.

Funding: \$53,649. Completed.

2002-01. "By-catch and Discard Reduction Concerning Selectivity and Overall Design in the Black Sea Bass Trap Fishery."

James E. Dawson. (Chincoteague, VA)

Duration: 04/2002-04/2003.

Funding: \$16,100. Completed.

## Report of Activities During 2014

2002-02. "Growing Oysters in Suspended Bags Using Ropes, Anchors, and Buoys."

Curtis B. Jenkins. (Warsaw, VA)

Duration: 05/2002-12/2003.

Funding: \$4,445. Completed.

2002-04. "Virginia Oyster Replenishment Via Seed Growing Operation."

Robert W. Shanley. (Cape Charles, VA)

Duration: 04/2002-04/2003.

Funding: \$38,400. Completed.

2002-07. "Development of Grow Out Techniques Utilizing the Water Column in Growing a Non-Native Oyster (*Crassostea ariakensis*)."

Andy Drewer. (Saxis, VA)

Duration: 04/2002-06/2003.

Funding: \$22,008. Completed.

2002-09. "Tenderizing Illex Squid So It Can Be Marketed as Food Rather Than Bait."

Sam Daniels, Wanchese Fish Co. (Suffolk, VA)

Approved for funding but withdrawn at Applicant's Request.

2002-20. "Growth Rate of *Ariakensis* Oysters in Different Environments."

Richard Wade Harding, Purcell's Seafood Inc. (Burgess, VA)

Duration: 04/2004-08/2004.

Funding: \$10,854. Completed.

2002-22. "Development of Clear Plastic Containers for Pasteurizing Crab Meat."

Johnny Graham, Graham & Rollins Inc. (Hampton, VA)

Duration: 10/2002-11/2004.

Funding: \$29,770. Completed.

2002-24. "Grow-Out and Marketability Evaluation of Triploid DEBY Oysters."

Gustavo Calvo, Sweet Amalia Oyster Farm. (Hayes, VA)

Duration: 10/2002-05/2004.

Funding: \$4,650. Completed.

2002-27. "Juvenile protection."

Willie Andrew Offield. (West Point, VA)

Duration:

Funding: Not initiated.

2002-28. "Growing of the Native and Non-Native Oyster Utilizing a Long Line System."

Tripp Smith, Shores and Ruark Seafood Co. (Sharps, VA)

Duration: 10/2002-09/2004.

Funding: \$34,810. Completed.

2002-29. "Modular Oil Absorbent Bilge Pump."

Darryl Lilliston, Darryl Lilliston Seafood (Wachapreague, VA)

Duration: 11/2002-12/2003.

Funding: \$13,117. Completed.

2001-04. "Hydrostatic Oyster Processing Demonstration."

Lake Cowart, Cowart Seafood. (Lottsburg, VA)

Duration: 10/2001-11/2003.

Funding: \$34,600. Completed.

2001-12. "Floating Cultivation of Sea-Side Oyster."

Jeff Hammer. (Accomac, VA)

Duration: 03/2002-02/2004.

Funding: \$18,575 Completed.

2001-13. "Fluke Holding Tank and Live Market Assessment."

Wec Terry, Terry Brothers, Inc. (Willis Wharf, VA)

Duration: 10/2002-04/2004.

Funding: \$17,919. Completed.

2001-14. "Marketing Virginia Croaker."

Stuart O'bier, O'bier Seafood. (Callao, VA)

Duration: 10/2001-10/2003.

Funding: \$43,500. Completed.

2000-01. "Enhancement of Seed Oyster Recovery and Redeployment."

W.S. Magann. (Chesapeake, VA)

Duration: 03/2001-05/2002.

Funding: \$17,125. Completed.

2000-03. "Raising Spot (*Leiostomus xanthurus*) Commercially for Sale as Live Bait in the Commonwealth of Virginia."

John Vigliotta. (Gloucester, VA)

Duration: 02/2001-11/2001.

Funding: \$19,827. Completed.

2000-05. "Control of Mud Blister Formation in Oysters."

Dennis Gryder. (Hampton, VA)

Duration: 04/2001-11/2002.

Funding: \$1,338. Completed.

2000-06. "Efficiency of Haul-Seine Cull Panels: A

Comparison of Size Selectivity and Relative Release (Second Season)."

Christian Hager. (Hayes, VA)

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- Duration: 02/2001-11/2001.  
Funding: \$16,496. Completed.
- 2000-08. "Comparative Study of Four Popular Grow-Out Methods."  
Jack White. (New Point, VA)  
Duration: 02/2001-12/2002.  
Funding: \$27,340. Completed.
- 2000-10. "Portable Anchor Trap Net Designed with Large Mesh to Harvest Cownose Rays."  
Douglas F. Jenkins, Sr. (Warsaw, VA)  
Duration: 03/2001-12/2004.  
Funding: \$9,883. Completed.
- 2000-12. "Taylor Float Tidal Flow Increaser."  
Bradley M. Knight. (Saxis, VA)  
Duration: 04/2001-09/2003.  
Funding: \$3,622. Cancelled, incomplete due to damage from Hurricane Isabel.
- 2000-15. "Scallop Trawl Improvement Program."  
Timothy B. Daniels. (Newport News, VA)  
Duration: 02/2001-12/2003.  
Funding: \$44,900. Completed.
- 2000-18. "Crab-Pot Buoy Marking Tags."  
Diana Gadwill. (Kinsale, VA)  
Duration: 04/2001-11/2001.  
Funding: \$820. Completed.
- 1999-02. "Peeler Pot By-catch Reduction."  
B. Knight. (Saxis, VA)  
Duration: 04/2000-09/2000.  
Funding: \$1,527. Completed.
- 1999-07. "Enhancement of Seed Oyster Recovery and Redeployment."  
W.S. Magann. (Chesapeake, VA)  
Duration: 01/2000-02/2001.  
Funding: \$15,000. Completed.
- 1999-12. "Growing Soft Clams (*Mya arenaria*) Commercially in the Commonwealth of Virginia."  
Ward Oyster Company. (Ware Neck, VA)  
Duration: 02/2000-06/001.  
Funding: \$19,827. Completed.
- 1999-14. "Efficiency of Haul-Seine Cull Panels- A Comparison of Size Selectivity and Relative Release."  
C.H. Hager. (Hayes, VA)  
Duration: 02/2000-11/2000.  
Funding: \$10,315. Completed.
- 1999-20. "Comparing Oyster Seed Growth Rates Using a Floating Upweller System ("FLUPSY") vs. Traditional Taylor Floats."  
R. Bloxom and J.T. Gardner. (Wachapreague, VA)  
Duration: 04/2000-06/2001.  
Funding: \$12,700. Completed.
- 1999-23. "Comparative Growth Rates of Four Strains of the American Oyster Using Two Grow-Out Methods."  
A.T. Leggett. (Wicomico, VA)  
Duration: 03/2000-09/2001.  
Funding: \$21,851. Completed.
- 1999-24. "Feasibility of Using Croakers to Make Large Fillets or Fish Squares."  
Wanchese Fish Company. (Hampton, VA)  
Duration: 02/2000-12/2001.  
Funding: \$19,500. Completed.
- 1999-29. "Development of Live Fish Markets Through the Use of New Live Holding Gear."  
W. Cosby. (New Kent, VA)  
Duration: 02/2000-11/2001.  
Funding: \$18,470. Completed.
- 1999-30. "Comparisons of Hard Clam Culture Using 'Fenced In' Method vs. Under Nets."  
L. Crewe. (Newport News, VA)  
Duration: 02/2000-02/2002.  
Funding: \$7,400. Completed.
- 1999-34. "Artificial Reef Oyster Grow-Out."  
J. Hammer. (Accomac, VA)  
Duration: 03/2000-12/2001.  
Funding: \$29,700. Completed.
- 1999-37. "Comparative Study of Oyster Seed from Northern and Southern Hatcheries."  
J.W. Merritt. (Chincoteague, VA)  
Duration: 03/2000-03/2002.  
Funding: \$25,026. Completed.

**Appendices to the Annual  
Report of Activities 2014**

**Appendix A**

**Virginia Fishery Resource Grant Program  
Advisory Board**

***VFRGP Manager***

Tom Murray, Associate Director for Advisory Services  
Virginia Institute of Marine Science  
P.O. Box 1346  
Gloucester Point, VA 23062

phone: 804-684-7190  
fax: 804-684-7161  
email: [tjm@vims.edu](mailto:tjm@vims.edu)

***For Virginia Sea Grant Program***

Dr. Troy Hartley, Sea Grant Director  
Virginia Institute of Marine Science  
P.O. Box 1346  
Gloucester Point, VA 23062

phone: 804-684-7248  
fax: 804-684-7269  
email: [thartley@vims.edu](mailto:thartley@vims.edu)

***For Virginia Marine Resources Commission***

Dr. James Wesson  
Virginia Marine Resources Commission  
2600 Washington Avenue, Third Floor  
Newport News, VA 23607

phone: 757-247-2121  
fax: 757-247-8101  
email: [jwesson@mrc.state.va.us](mailto:jwesson@mrc.state.va.us)

***For Virginia Institute of Marine Science***

Dr. Mark Luckenbach, Associate Dean  
for Research and Advisory Services  
Virginia Institute of Marine Science  
P.O. Box 1346  
Gloucester Point, VA 23062

phone: 804-684-7108  
fax: 804-684-7097  
email: [luck@vims.edu](mailto:luck@vims.edu)

***For the Aquaculture Industry***

Mike Peirson  
P.O. Box 222  
Eastville, VA 23347

phone: 757-678-7999  
email: [thepeirsons@yahoo.com](mailto:thepeirsons@yahoo.com)

***For the Watermen's Associations***

Marshall Cox  
6428 Rocky Lane  
Cape Charles, VA 23310

phone: 757-373-2990  
email: [mrscox2711@earthlink.net](mailto:mrscox2711@earthlink.net)

Pete Nixon  
664 Ingleside Road  
Norfolk, VA 23502

phone: 804-466-8940  
email: [pdnixon1950@gmail.com](mailto:pdnixon1950@gmail.com)

**Appendix B**

**Sample VFRGP News Release**

**For More Information, Contact:**

Dianne Roberts  
Virginia Institute of Marine Science  
Virginia Sea Grant Marine Advisory Program  
P.O. Box 1346  
Gloucester Point, VA 23062  
Phone (804) 684-7173  
Fax (804) 684-7161  
<http://www.vims.edu/adv/frg/>

**NEWS RELEASE**

**December 1, 2014**

**MEETINGS FOR VIRGINIA WATERMEN TO LEARN ABOUT GRANTS AVAILABLE**

The VIMS Advisory Services is accepting applications to compete for funding as part of the Virginia Fishery Resource Grant Program (VFRGP). The Virginia Legislature created the Fishery Resource Grant Program to “protect and enhance the Commonwealth’s coastal fishery resource through the awarding of grants.”

Basic to the program is the belief that people in the commercial fishing industry often have valid ideas to enhance and protect fisheries, but may lack the financial resources to experiment with innovations. The Fishery Resource Grant Program invests in such ideas generated by the fishing public through fair and competitive methods.

The legislation established four priority areas for funding as follows:

- **New Fisheries Equipment and Gear** - focus on the development of less environmentally destructive gear, by-catch reduction, and more effective ways to handle catch.
- **Environmental Pilot Studies** - focus on ways to restore damaged habitat, create new habitat, prevent habitat impairment, or reduce impact from fishing or aquaculture activities.
- **Aquaculture/Mariculture** - focus on ways to develop criteria and assessment for permits, increase return from investment in culture activities, or introduce new species to the existing aquaculture list to broaden participation in commercial aquaculture.
- **Seafood Technology and Utilization** - develop value-added products from existing production, the utilization of underused or new fishery resources, develop models for total quality system management programs, or increase returns in the seafood industry by improving packaging and handling.

**Eligibility** - To be eligible for funding under the Fishery Resource Grant Program, each proposal must substantially involve Virginians who are actively involved in a fishing industry (which is defined as persons involved in commercial activities relating to fishery resources, aquaculture/mariculture, or the processing or handling of fishery products).

Virginia Fishery Resource Grant Program

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Proposals submitted by persons not involved in a fishing industry must have 1) substantial involvement of Virginia fishers as defined above, and 2) include written endorsements from persons or organizations representing fishing industries supporting the project. The work can involve both inshore and offshore fisheries. All proposals submitted within the limits of the Guidelines for Submission will be accepted and reviewed for technical merit and the ability to address one or more of the specific priorities listed above.

**Proposal Submission** - To be considered for funding in this solicitation, a signed application must be postmarked no later than January 31, 2015. Mailed copies should be sent to: **Tom Murray, VFRGP Manager, Marine Advisory Program, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, P.O. Box 1346, Gloucester Point, Virginia 23062. No applicant may submit more than 2 proposals for this cycle.** Faxed or electronic proposals will not be considered.

A series of workshops will be held to explain the grants program, including eligibility and funding priorities, how to complete the application form, and where to go for more help when developing a grant proposal package. The time and location of these workshops are listed below:

**Tuesday, December 16, 2014 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm**  
**Classroom 150, Eastern Shore Community College**  
**29300 Lankford Highway**  
**Melfa, VA 23410**

**Wednesday, December 17, 2014 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm**  
**Director's Conference Room, Watermen's Hall, VIMS Campus**  
**1375 Greate Road**  
**Gloucester Point, VA 23062**

The Request for Proposals and application forms are available on-line at: <http://www.vims.edu/adv/frg>. To request a copy of the application package contact Dianne Roberts at (804) 684-7173.

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Appendix C

**Virginia Fishery Resource Grant Program  
Request for Proposals**

**Virginia Fishery Resource Grant Program  
Request for Proposals (RFP) November 2014  
<http://www.vims.edu/adv/frg>**

*Proposals will be accepted from January 5, 2015 – January 31, 2015*

The Marine Advisory Program (MAP) at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) is accepting applications to compete for funding as part of the Virginia Fishery Resource Grant Program (VFRGP). The Virginia Legislature created the Fishery Resource Grant Program to “protect and enhance the Commonwealth’s coastal fishery resource through the awarding of grants” in four areas: 1) new marine fisheries equipment or gear; 2) environmental pilot studies on issues including water quality and fisheries habitat; 3) aquaculture or mariculture of marine-dependent species; and 4) seafood technology.

A basic principle of the VFRGP is that people in the industry often have valid ideas for enhancing and protecting fisheries, but they lack the financial resources to experiment with innovations. The VFRGP invests in ideas generated by the fishing public through fair and competitive methods.

The legislation established the four priority areas noted above. Specific priorities within the four topic areas have been approved by the VFRGP Advisory Board and are noted below. All proposals submitted within the limits of the Guidelines for Submission will be accepted and reviewed for technical merit and the ability to address one or more of the specific priorities listed.

**New Fisheries Equipment and Gear** – This priority area seeks proposals that focus on the development of less environmentally destructive gear, bycatch reduction, improvements in gear selectivity, more effective ways to handle catch and the development of information leading to fishery management plans for key species and groups.

**Environmental Pilot Studies** – This priority area seeks proposals that focus on ways to restore damaged habitat, create new habitat, prevent habitat impairment or reduce impact from fishing or aquaculture activities.

**Aquaculture/Mariculture** – This priority area seeks proposals that focus on ways to develop criteria and assessment for permits, increase return from investment in culture activities or introduce new species to the existing aquaculture list to broaden the participation in commercial aquaculture.

**Seafood Technology and Utilization** – This priority area seeks proposals that develop value-added products from existing production, the utilization of underused or new fishery resources, develop models for total quality system management programs or increase returns in the seafood industry by improving packaging and handling.



## Virginia Fishery Resource Grant Program

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### Eligibility

To be eligible for funding under the VFRGP, each proposal must substantially involve Virginians who are actively involved in a fishing industry (defined as persons involved in commercial activities relating to fishery resources, aquaculture/mariculture or the processing or handling fishery products). Proposals submitted by persons not involved in a fishing industry must have 1) substantial involvement of Virginia fishers as defined above and 2) written endorsements from persons or organizations representing fishing industries supporting the project.

### Proposal Development

Competitive proposals are developed through discussions of ideas and partnering with interested groups and experts. Every applicant should consult with experts in the targeted priority area(s) and, where appropriate, develop a team of fishers and scientists to conduct the work. VIMS MAP specialists can help assemble a team. Non-fishers could improve chances of funding by collaborating with persons in a fishing industry for proposal development and design and by involving fishers in the execution of the study. VIMS MAP will be responsible for determining the eligibility of each proposal.

### Application Forms

The application form at the end of this notice provides an outline for the proposal and additional pages should be used for providing information in the sections listed. Applicants should pay particular attention to items 12-17. These sections should describe the problem and rationale for proposing the research project (12), present the goals and objectives and the proposed work (13) and describe the work that is to be performed to meet the objectives (14). The next three sections should explain how the information gained from the work will help resolve the problem described (15), how the information developed will be transferred to others (16; please note that it is not enough to say the data will be given to VMRC or another agency) and who will be responsible for doing the work (17; letters confirming participation should be obtained from all cooperators).

A series of workshops will be held to explain the grant program, including eligibility and funding priorities, how to complete the application form and where to go for more help when developing a grant proposal package. The time and location of these workshops will be announced through press releases to the media and in selected newsletters. The workshop schedule is also included in this announcement.

### Proposal Submission

To be considered for funding in this solicitation, a signed application must be delivered or postmarked no later than 5:00 pm, January 31, 2015. Mailed copies should be sent to: Tom Murray, VFRGP Manager; Marine Advisory Program, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, P.O. Box 1346, Gloucester Point, VA 23062. **No applicant may submit more than 2 proposals for this cycle.** Faxed or electronic proposals will not be accepted.

To ensure competitive project selections, VFRGP will subject all proposals to a series of reviews by a panel of experts from outside of Virginia. The VFRGP Advisory Board (see appended list of Advisory Board members) will also provide proposal evaluations to the selection process. VFRGP will make proposal selection decisions and funding agreements will generally be effective during the second calendar quarter of 2015.

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## Funding Priorities

The following list of potential research ideas has been reviewed and approved by the VFRGP Advisory Board and is provided as suggestions of the types of subjects that could be appropriate for proposals to the VFRGP. These are not intended as a complete listing of all possible projects; nor are the topics listed in order of importance. All proposals received by the submission deadline will receive equal treatment during the review process.

Potential research topics or issues include but are not limited to the following:

### I. Inshore and Offshore Harvesting Sector Studies

1. Reduce bycatch by technology development and education.
2. Develop “environmentally friendly” gear.
3. Develop more effective/efficient mechanisms for handling catch.
4. Develop and evaluate mechanisms to release fish to increase their survival.
5. Determine amounts of hook-and-release mortality for important recreational species.
6. Increase efficiency/economic return of fishing.
7. Develop bait and bait substitutes.
8. Develop species-specific gear.
9. Develop information leading to Fishery Management Plans for key species and groups.
10. Develop new gear and/or improve current gear and/or document catch per unit effort (CPUE).
11. Develop gear to improve selectivity of target species.

### II. Environmental Pilot Studies

1. Develop mechanisms to restore damaged habitat or create new habitat.
2. Develop mechanisms to prevent habitat impairment.
3. Reduce habitat impact from fishing activities.
4. Develop recycling and collection programs for used fishing or aquaculture gear.
5. Develop ways to monitor and evaluate habitat alterations or the impacts of aquaculture practices such as moving of seaside shellfish to the bayside.
6. Determine environmental impact of fishing and processing activities.
7. Assess effects of water quality and habitat alteration on fisheries production.

### III. Aquaculture/Mariculture

1. Increase return from investment in culture activities including the development of mechanical planting and harvesting technologies.
2. Examine the potential for culture of new species and/or deep-water culture techniques for existing species such as clams and oysters.
3. Determine environmental impacts of aquaculture operations.
4. Improve the efficiency of growth, feeding and nutrition.
5. Demonstrate the best husbandry practices for potential growers.
6. Develop mechanisms for a network for technical monitoring of waters for levels of spat fall, food, predators, etc.
7. Market research for aquaculture products.
8. Develop parameters for apprentice program and training for career aquaculturists.
9. Assess feasibility of augmenting commercially and recreationally important species through hatchery release.
10. Assess regulations that impact aquaculture/mariculture such as submerged aquatic vegetation protection.
11. Assess the potential of shellfish aquaculture to enhance wild populations.
12. Provide the opportunity for watermen, including minorities, to diversify their businesses through aquaculture.

**IV. Seafood Technology particularly as it provides value added to the Commercial Blue Crab Fishery**

1. Develop value-added products from existing or potential production.
2. Increase returns in the seafood industry by improving packaging and handling.
3. Develop models for total quality system management programs.
4. Develop improvements in product quality.
5. Develop mechanisms for reducing effluents and the environmental impacts.
6. Develop alternative uses for processing byproducts.

**Contacts**

If you have an idea for a project, you may contact the following VIMS MAP specialists for assistance in writing your proposal or to request additional information. These people can also direct you to a research scientist who has expertise related to your project topic.

***VIMS MAP contacts include:***

|               |              |                                             |
|---------------|--------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Tom Murray    | 804-684-7190 | MAP Director, Marine Business               |
| Bob Fisher    | 804-684-7168 | Commercial Fisheries/Seafood Technology     |
| Karen Hudson  | 804-684-7742 | Commercial Shellfish Aquaculture Specialist |
| Dan Sennett   | 804-684-7669 | Finfish Aquaculture                         |
| David Rudders | 804-684-7531 | Data Collection/Analysis                    |

**Virginia Fishery Resource Grant Program - Application Workshops**

Two workshops will be held to explain the VFRGP, including eligibility and funding priorities, how to complete the application form and where to go for more help when developing a grant proposal package. The time and location of these workshops is listed below:

*Tuesday, December 16, 2014  
6:00 to 8:00 pm  
Eastern Shore Community College  
(Classroom 150)  
29300 Lankford Highway  
Melfa, VA 23410*

*Wednesday, December 17, 2014  
6:00 to 8:00 pm  
Virginia Institute of Marine Science  
(Director's Conference Room, Watermen's Hall)  
1375 Greate Road  
Gloucester Point, VA 23062*

Appendix

Virginia Fishery Resource Grant Program – Advisory Board

***VFRGP Manager***

Tom Murray, Associate Director for Advisory Services  
Virginia Institute of Marine Science  
P.O. Box 1346  
Gloucester Point, VA 23062

phone: 804-684-7190  
fax: 804-684-7161  
email: [tjm@vims.edu](mailto:tjm@vims.edu)

***For Virginia Sea Grant Program***

Dr. Troy Hartley, Sea Grant Director  
Virginia Institute of Marine Science  
P.O. Box 1346  
Gloucester Point, VA 23062

phone: 804-684-7248  
fax: 804-684-7269  
email: [thartley@vims.edu](mailto:thartley@vims.edu)

***For Virginia Marine Resources Commission***

Dr. James Wesson  
Virginia Marine Resources Commission  
2600 Washington Avenue, Third Floor  
Newport News, VA 23607

phone: 757-247-2121  
fax: 757-247-8101  
email: [jwesson@mrc.state.va.us](mailto:jwesson@mrc.state.va.us)

***For Virginia Institute of Marine Science***

Dr. Mark Luckenbach, Associate Dean  
for Research and Advisory Services  
Virginia Institute of Marine Science  
P.O. Box 1346  
Gloucester Point, VA 23062

phone: 804-684-7108  
fax: 804-684-7097  
email: [luck@vims.edu](mailto:luck@vims.edu)

***For the Aquaculture Industry***

Mike Peirson  
P.O. Box 222  
Eastville, VA 23347

phone: 757-678-7999  
email: [thepeirsons@yahoo.com](mailto:thepeirsons@yahoo.com)

***For the Watermen's Associations***

Marshall Cox  
6428 Rocky Lane  
Cape Charles, VA 23310

phone: 757-373-2990  
email: [mrscox2711@earthlink.net](mailto:mrscox2711@earthlink.net)

Pete Nixon  
664 Ingleside Road  
Norfolk, VA 23502

phone: 804-466-8940  
email: [pdnixon1950@gmail.com](mailto:pdnixon1950@gmail.com)

.....

**Virginia Fishery Resource Grant Program  
Application**

1. Project title: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Name of applicant: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Company (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_
4. Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Priority addressed by project (see list): \_\_\_\_\_
7. Fishing license/permit number(s): \_\_\_\_\_
8. Social security or federal tax ID number: \_\_\_\_\_
9. Funding requested: \_\_\_\_\_
10. Project dates: beginning: \_\_\_\_\_ completion: \_\_\_\_\_
11. Other project participant(s), affiliation, address and phone:

*[Note: Use additional pages as needed to respond to the items below.]*

12. Give a brief summary of the situation or problem to be addressed.

Virginia Fishery Resource Grant Program

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13. What is the purpose (objectives) of the project?

14. What work do you intend to do, and how do you plan to accomplish it?

15. Explain how the expected results will address the problem and/or enhance fishery resources.

16. Explain how the expected results will be made available to the fishing industry.

17. Briefly outline who will be responsible for each aspect of the work plan (attach letters from cooperators outlining their participation).

18. Briefly summarize the qualifications of each participant.

Report of Activities During 2014



19. Provide project budget and cost justification.

| ITEM/CATEGORY                           | AMOUNT |
|-----------------------------------------|--------|
| a. Personnel Costs (time x unit cost)   |        |
| b. Travel (trip or mileage x unit cost) |        |
| c. Supplies                             |        |
| d. Equipment (items more than \$500)    |        |
| e. Contractual Services (itemize)       |        |
| f. Other Costs (itemize)                |        |
|                                         |        |
|                                         |        |
|                                         |        |
| <b>g. Total Project Costs</b>           |        |

20. Provide budget item justification and/or explanations.

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_





Virginia Fishery Resource Grant Program

**Virginia Fishery Resource Grant Program  
Application Guidelines**

1. Provide a title that summarizes the project.
2. Give the full name of the applicant; it will be used to issue payments for the project.
3. Give the name of your company or corporation if applicable, or the institution of your employment. If self-employed, say so.
4. Applicant's complete telephone number including area code.
5. Mailing address for correspondence and mailing payments, etc.
6. Which priority are you addressing? The attached listing gives this year's priorities under the four- program areas equip- ment/gear, environment, aquaculture and seafood.
7. Give fishing license or permit number(s), if applicable.
8. Social security or federal ID number is required for grant payments.
9. Total amount of funding requested (see budget section).
10. Give the date that you plan to begin work and the date that we can expect a completion report.
11. List all other personnel involved in the project and their affiliation. This includes all those who have a major responsi- bility for some aspect of the work.

***\*\*Use additional pages as needed to fully answer items 12 through 18\*\****

12. Describe the nature of the situation or problem that your proposed work will address.
13. What is the purpose of your proposed work?
14. **This section is very important!** Please explain how, where and when you will conduct each work task. Explain how tests will be run and how the data will be analyzed. Describe the tests you plan to conduct, the surveys you will make and/or plans for making something. Your methodology must withstand questions about its validity and/or potential to yield the results you need to solve the purpose of your work (described in number 13 above).
15. Describe how the outcome of your proposed work will help address the problem described in number 12 above.
16. Describe how you plan to get the results of your work to other members of the fishing industry for their use. It is not enough to just discover something. It must also be usable. If you are going to rely on someone else to extend the results, be sure to have an agreement and arrange to cover those expenses.

## Report of Activities During 2014

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17. Who is going to be responsible for what? Each participant (including the applicant) must be responsible for some part of the work. You must have letters of endorsement from other participants to confirm their participation in the project. For example, if personnel from VIMS will conduct the statistical analysis, then an agreement letter from VIMS is required.
  18. Give a brief statement describing the experience of each participant and the applicant that qualifies them to do the tasks outlined above.
  19. Carefully compute the funds needed (rounded to the nearest dollar) for all of the work described in the proposal. Be sure to include any subcontractors (budget item e.) for lab work, consultants, extension, services, etc. The funding for these grants does not permit indirect costs (overhead). Be sure to check your budget total figure.
  20. Please justify the budget figures. For example: “We will need a deckhand for 150 hours @ \$7/hour,” or “We will need to design and build a trawl that requires \$1,200 for materials,” etc.
- **Be sure to sign the application!** Applications without a dated signature will be rejected as incomplete.
  - **Mail the signed original to:** Tom Murray, VFRGP Manager, Advisory Services, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, P.O. Box 1346, Gloucester Point, VA 23062.
  - Applications must be postmarked no later than ***January 31, 2015***. Applications may be delivered to the Advisory Services office in Gloucester Point only until 5:00 pm on January 31, 2015. **Late proposals will be returned to the applicant without being considered.**
  - If you need assistance completing the grant application, a resource list is available from Mrs. Dianne Roberts (phone: 804-684-7173; email: droberts@vims.edu). This RFP and application form is available at this website: <http://www.vims.edu/adv/frg>.

**Appendix D**

**VFRGP Principles of Operation**

**Authority:** The Virginia Legislature ratified House Bill 1634 in 1999 providing funding to “protect and enhance the state’s coastal fishery resources through the awarding of grants.”

**Administration:** The program is administered by the Advisory Services Program at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science with input from an appointed Advisory Board. The Board, based upon rankings from reviews and consistent with priorities, will determine the grants to be awarded.

**Priorities:** The Advisory Board, with input from members of the fishing industry, develops priorities for each year in the following areas:

1. New fisheries equipment and gear;
2. Environmental pilot studies, including water quality and fisheries habitat;
3. Aquaculture/mariculture; and
4. Seafood technology.

**Eligibility:** Each proposal shall include substantial involvement of active Virginia persons involved in a fishing industry. The term “fishing industry” includes persons involved in commercial activities related to inshore and offshore fishery resources, aquaculture/mariculture, or handling of fishery products (i.e. seafood dealers and processors). A proposal generated by a person not involved in a fishing industry must have substantial involvement of Virginia fishers (as defined above) as well as written endorsements from persons or organizations representing fishing industries in support of the project.

**Technical Assistance:** Following the establishment of priorities by the Advisory Board, VIMS Advisory Services shall hold workshops at coastal locations to solicit applications and to assist persons involved in fishing industries in writing proposals. A list of technical advisors will be available throughout the proposal writing process for assistance and participation.

**Application:** Applications must be completed based on the format provided for that purpose. Additional pages or supplemental materials (diagrams, photos, etc.) are acceptable if they better explain the project. Applications may include technical assistance as part of the project and funds may be budgeted to pay for this. Incomplete applications will not be accepted for consideration. Application forms listing information needed for a proposal are available from VIMS (see listing below for contact details).

**Project Duration:** Projects must reach conclusion within two years or less.

**Geographic Distribution:** To the extent practicable, grant funding will be distributed to applicants within Virginia counties that border the Atlantic Ocean or Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries to the extent of tidal influence.

Review Procedures: An anonymous outside peer review will be conducted for all applications. At least one of the reviewers shall be a person involved in a fishing industry. Applications shall be confidential until after funding decisions are made.

Project quality will be assessed on the following criteria:

1. Addresses a priority,
2. Ability to protect or enhance fishery resources;
3. Organization of a work plan leading to conclusions,
4. Plan to extend findings to the fishing industry;
5. Availability of expertise and its application;
6. Familiarity and experience with the problem addressed;
7. Innovation of approach and/or potential findings;
8. Cost-effectiveness of implementation of results; and
9. Reasonableness of budget for work proposed.

Based upon panel reviews and Advisory Board input, proposals will be recommended to the Marine Science Consortium. The Consortium will make all final decisions on grants, including the level of funding for each project.

Restrictions: No member of the Fishery Resource Grant Program staff or the Advisory Board or members of his/her immediate family may benefit financially from a grant. If a grant recipient from a prior year has failed to perform a grant project to the satisfaction of the Consortium, the principal applicant may be denied funding for a new application.

Grant recipients shall provide quarterly progress reports to the VFRGP and shall submit invoices describing expenditures for each quarter. Twenty-five percent (25 %) of the total grant award shall be awarded on the start date and certified upon verification of expenditures. The final 25% of the total grant award shall be held until the recipient has completed and submitted a satisfactory final written report. The remainder of the grant award shall be distributed upon approval of quarterly reports, verification of expenditures and receipt of an invoice.

Questions concerning the Virginia Fishery Resource Grant Program may be directed to the following:

Tom Murray, Associate Director Advisory Services  
VIMS  
P.O. Box 1346  
Gloucester Point, VA 23062  
Phone 804-684-7190  
Fax 804-684-7161  
E-mail: [tjm@vims.edu](mailto:tjm@vims.edu)



This is a report to the Governor and General Assembly of Virginia on Implementation of House Bill No. 1634 (February 6, 1999) - "The Fishery Resource Grant Fund". Funds are administered by Virginia Institute of Marine Science Marine Advisory Services in partnership with Virginia Sea Grant.

February 2015  
VIMS Marine Resource Report No. 2015-1

[http://www.vims.edu/research/units/centerspartners/map/frg/docs\\_frg/MRR2015\\_1.pdf](http://www.vims.edu/research/units/centerspartners/map/frg/docs_frg/MRR2015_1.pdf)

Copies of this report are available from  
Dianne Roberts  
Virginia Institute of Marine Science  
P.O. Box 1346  
Gloucester Point, VA 23062  
e-mail droberts@vims.edu

