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News of the Coast (September 2022)

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**WILLIAM & MARY
LAW SCHOOL**

**VIRGINIA COASTAL
POLICY CENTER**

News of the Coast: September 2022



Welcome Jess Kraus!

VCPC alumna Jessica Kraus will come aboard in September as the new Staff Attorney, a role that builds on the three-year Fellowship recently completed by Jesse Reiblich. Jess joins us from Reed Smith in Philadelphia, where she worked on emerging environmental issues.

Recent Highlights

The Resilience Adaptation Feasibility Tool (RAFT) finalized scorecards for two localities in the Crater PDC, Hopewell and Petersburg, and continues implementation for localities in the Middle Peninsula.

This summer, VCPC hosted six Research Assistants, including a Public Policy graduate student from William & Mary, a Public Administration graduate student from UNC, a W&M Law student, a National Sea Grant Law Center Diversity associate from Albany Law, a Sea Grant Community Engaged Intern from Xavier University of Louisiana, and a Political Science undergraduate from University of Iowa. A wonderfully diverse team!

VCPC was featured in the media for our work on Abandoned and Derelict Vessels, strategizing on how to protect Virginia waterways and help boat

owners responsibly manage vessels at the end of their lifespan.

VCPC Practicum I

In Lieu Fee

Students are working with the Coastal Zone Management Program to study potential mitigation programs for impacts to coastal habitats modeled on existing wetlands protection programs.



Virginia Ocean Plan

A team is also working with the Coastal Zone Management Program to help develop Virginia's first Ocean Plan, including supportive research and stakeholder and community consultation.

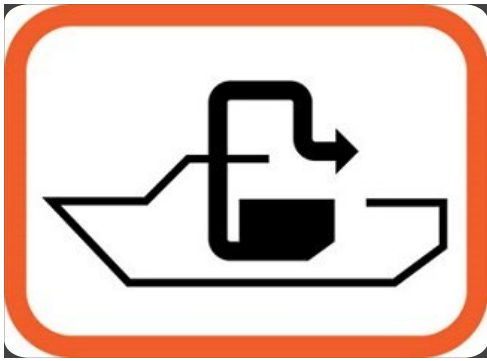
4VA Collaboration

The Coastal Policy Center has partnered with Virginia Sea Grant, W&M's Public Policy program, and James Madison University's Architectural Design program to research new, innovative ways of living with the water.

A VCPC student team this fall is researching the laws and regulatory schemes governing construction on inundated lands in varying scenarios, collaborating with JMU architecture students designing artificial oyster reefs and housing that can adapt to changing shorelines in Virginia.

No Discharge Zones

VCPC is continuing a previous project with the VA Dept. of Environmental Quality looking at No Discharge Zones, with students this fall surveying other jurisdictions with NDZs to determine enforcement best practices and lessons learned.



Infrastructure and Rising Seas

Dr. Molly Mitchell of VIMS is working with a Practicum I team to map and research solutions for important infrastructure in Virginia localities threatened by sea level rise and climate change.



New VCPC Policy Resources

- [Developing Solar Energy in Rural Virginia: An Analysis of Legal, Environmental, and Policy Issues](#)

