

**October 28, 2022**

**Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program  
Semiannual Section B.1 Report on Section 312 Evaluation and Metrics  
For the Period from April 1, 2022 – September 30, 2022**

	<b>Page</b>
SECTION B.1.A: Section 312 Evaluation Progress	2

## **B.1.A. SECTION 312 EVALUATION PROGRESS**

Virginia's most recent evaluation began in December 2021 with the Virginia CZM Program sending a 53 page response to 36 evaluation questions regarding administration of the program, protection of coastal habitat, coastal hazards and sea level rise, coastal water quality, coastal-dependent uses, public access, governmental coordination, and descriptions of major achievements and challenges. NOAA conducted an online survey of Virginia CZM stakeholders and partners. An online evaluation was conducted on August 1-4, 2022, which included a virtual public meeting on August 1, 2022.

The three target areas identified by the NOAA team to evaluate the Virginia CZM Program were: 1) Coastal Ecosystem & Community Resilience; 2) Ocean Planning; and 3) Marine Debris.

### **Progress This Period (April 1 September 30 2022):**

As mentioned above, the evaluation was conducted over four days – August 1-4, 2022. The evaluation was originally planned to be in-person, up until a few days before. Because the City of Richmond was still deemed high risk for COVID by the CDC, NOAA staff were not allowed to attend in-person. The meetings were all switched to online, virtual meetings.

The evaluation team included John Kuriawa and Carrie Hall of NOAA and Ashley Norton of the Delaware Coastal Program. On the final day, the evaluation team provided a de-brief of the week's meetings and gave a very positive initial review of the Virginia CZM Program's accomplishments.

Draft findings by NOAA are expected to be received from NOAA between December 13 and 23, 2022. Final findings are expected by February 1, 2023.