



Virginia Coastal Zone
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



Final Project Summary

Your final project summary is an important contribution to the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program's communication efforts and will be used to produce accomplishment reports, fact sheets and **Virginia Coastal Zone Management Web Site** information.

Please submit this form electronically to: april.bahen@deq.virginia.gov.

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NOAA Grant #:	NA17NOS4190152	Grant Year:	FY2017	Task #:	92.03
Agency/Locality:	Institute for Engagement & Negotiation at the University of Virginia				
Project Title:	Refining The RAFT For Broader Implementation				
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PROJECT SUMMARY: Please confine your summary to the space provided below. Remember to: write for the public, do not use first person, include an abstract of project results, provide a brief description, and titles, of publication(s) and/or dataset(s) produced, and describe how products will be distributed and if available on-line, please give the **Web address!**

Abstract of Results: Refining The RAFT For Broader Implementation has been successfully completed. This project has delivered 1) implementation assistance to the first 3 pilot communities and a revised version of The RAFT Scorecard based on follow-up from its first application in pilot communities and guidance from a social equity focus group; 2) the assessment of 7 Eastern Shore localities, including presentations to local staff and elected representatives, and support of their resilience action checklists implementation; 3) and launch of The RAFT website.

Project Summary:

Deliverable #1 Follow-Up to Pilots: By March 2018, The RAFT Core Team provided monthly assistance to the first 3 pilot communities (Town of Cape Charles, City of Portsmouth, Gloucester County) in their Resilience Action Checklists implementation. Products from their implementation are available on the [Resources](#) tab of The RAFT website. The Raft Core Team also revised the scorecard, based upon a) extensive feedback from The RAFT's 3 pilot communities (Town of Cape Charles, City of Portsmouth, Gloucester County); b) outcomes from a series of three comprehensive reviews conducted with Planning District Commission advisors and pilot communities in November 2017; c) a RAFT advisory committee of scientists, scholars, and area experts in January 2018; and a social equity focus group in Feb 2018. The goal of these reviews was to ensure that the revised Scorecard would be meaningful and easily understood by localities, while also remaining a robust and comprehensive assessment of coastal resilience.

Deliverable #2 Assessment of Eastern Shore localities: In June 2018, The RAFT Core Team used the revised scorecard to assess 7 Eastern Shore localities, including the counties of Accomack and Northampton, and towns of Onancock, Saxis, Tangier, and Wachapreague. Assessments were based on online research, document review, phone consultations with relevant stakeholders, and an in-depth review of the scores with each locality. Afterward, individual presentations were made to four Town Councils and two County Board of Supervisors in July. The assessment phase of the project culminated with a regional Resilience Action Workshop held on August 14, 2018, where six of the seven localities developed individual one-year Resilience Action Checklists and also identified actions that would be meaningful for the entire region. After the checklists were finalized and Implementation Teams established in each locality, The RAFT Core Team initiated monthly calls to provide support to locality Implementation Teams in moving action items forward. Scorecards for each of the 7 localities and all Resilience Action Checklists are available here: <https://raft.iem.virginia.edu/scorecards-checklists>.

Deliverable #3 Develop website for The RAFT: In April 2019, The RAFT website (<https://raft.iem.virginia.edu/>) was launched. The website provides an overview of The RAFT process, including the project's goals, history, funders, and advisors that offered guidance during the project. The "Communities" tab includes detailed information on The RAFT's 3 Pilot and 7 Eastern Shore localities. Under the "Resources" tab, the public can access The RAFT products and materials including research and policy papers, communication products, locality Scorecards and Checklists, as well as risk maps produced during various stages of The RAFT. The website will continue to be updated with new resources as they are developed. To ensure that the website is easy to navigate and includes information valuable to a suite of stakeholders, the Core Team is obtaining feedback from VDEQ, VAPDC, VACO, VML, as well as The RAFT advisory committee, and also 3 Pilot and 7 Eastern Shore locality implementation teams.