

Coastal Policy Team Background

September 21, 2023



Virginia Coastal Zone
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



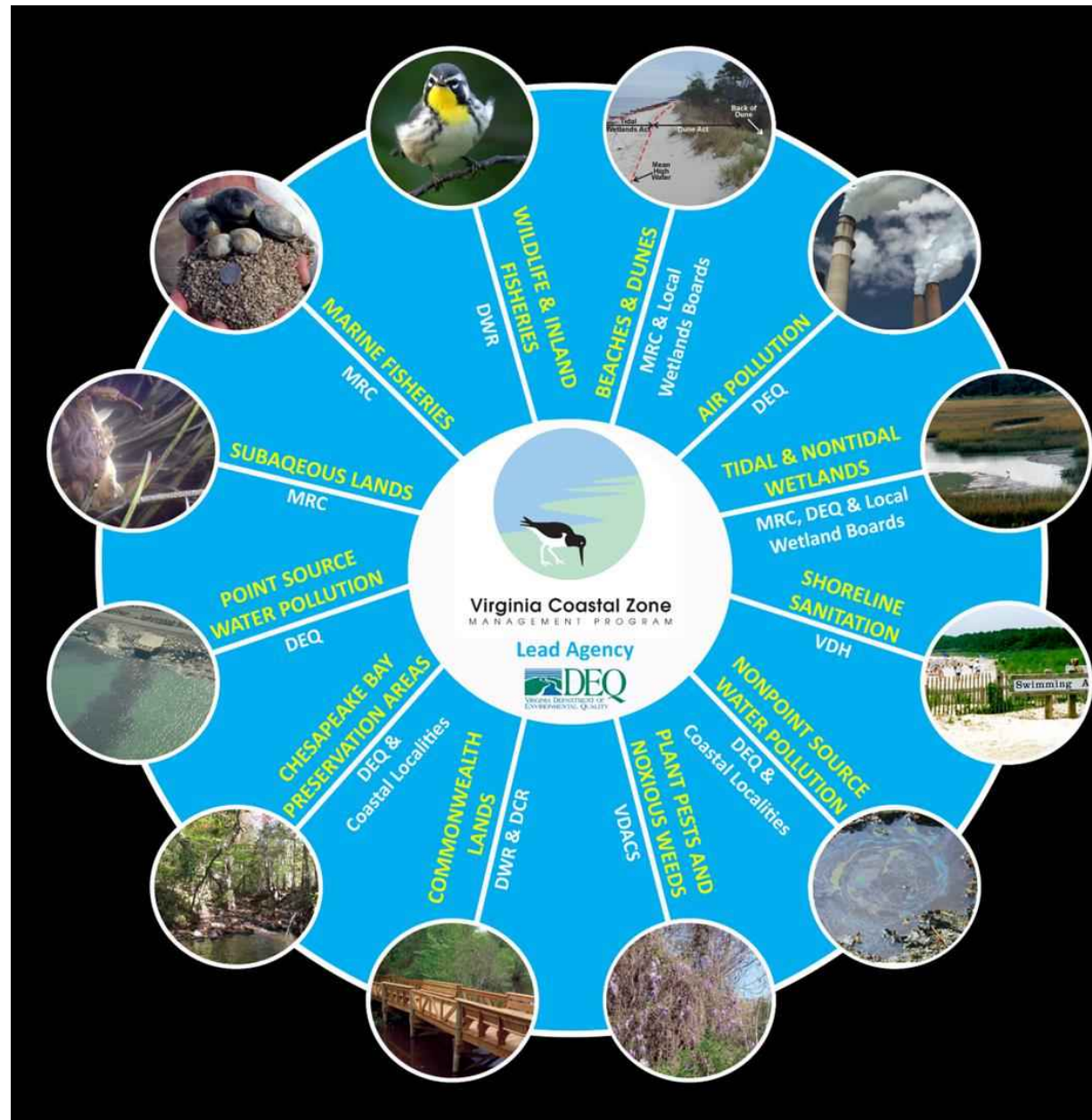
What is a Coastal Zone Management Program?

“The term "management program" includes, but is not limited to, a comprehensive statement in words, maps, illustrations, or other media of communication, prepared and adopted by the state in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, setting forth objectives, policies, and standards to guide public and private uses of lands and waters in the coastal zone.”

Section 304 (Definitions) - Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972

Virginia CZM Program Network

We are distinct organizations,
with distinct interests, and
distinct authorities.



What is a Networked Program?



“A way for states which already had substantial control over coastal activities and areas to somehow bind their coastal policies into the existing network of management control... The program emphasizes making preexisting authorities work better and in a more coordinated manner.”

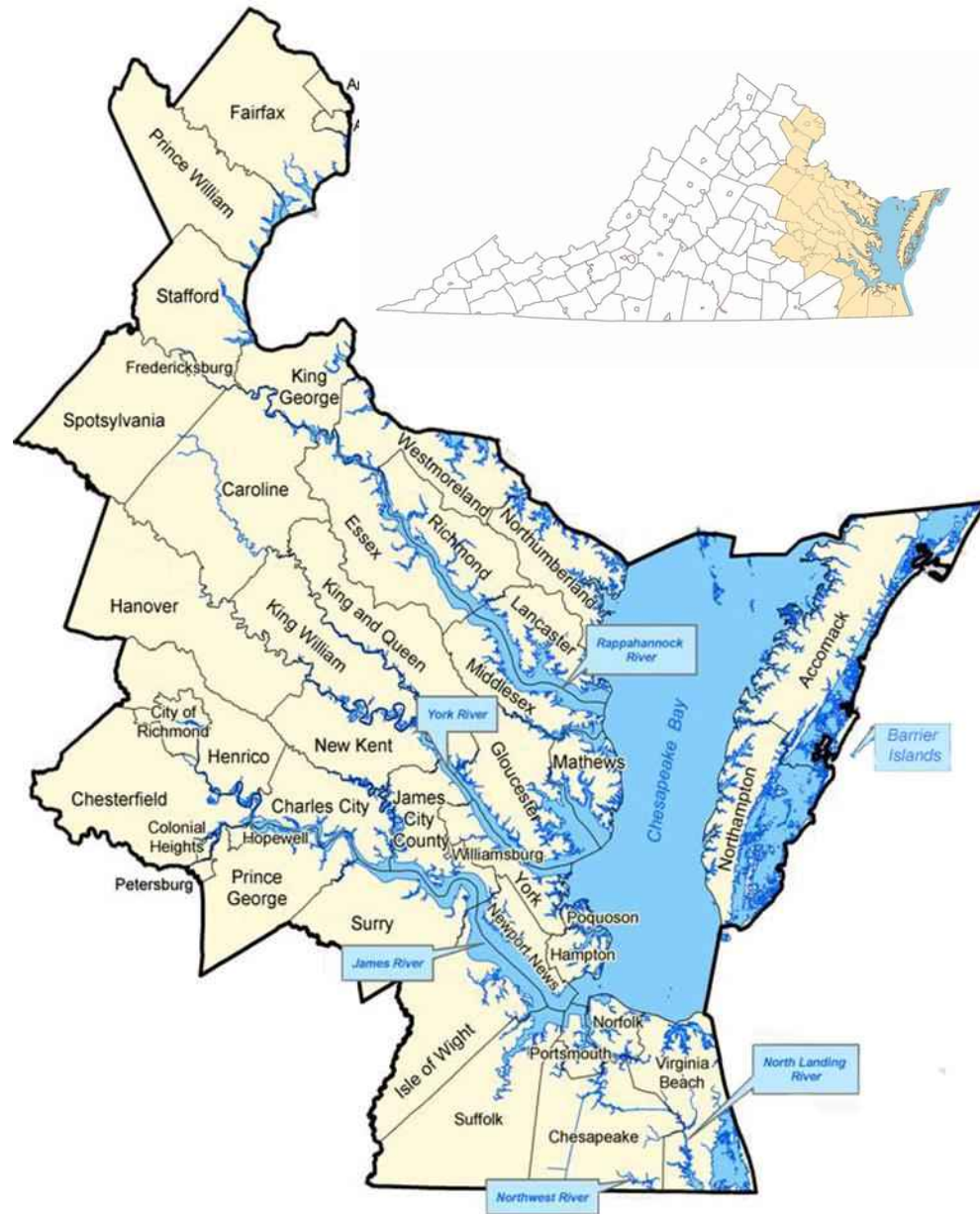
What are the pros of a Networked Program?

What are the cons of a Networked Program?



Virginia's Coastal Zone - Our Mandate

- 29% of Virginia's land area
- Tidal rivers reaching 100 miles inland
- 59% of Virginia's citizens
- Critical economic, civil, and nat. sec. infrastructure
- Critical coastal habitat, flora, and fauna
- 10 Goals & 22 pages of enforceable policies.



Virginia Coastal Policy Team Mission

1. Identify coastal policy issues that cut across agency jurisdictions and develop policy recommendations
2. Guide the development of measures/indicators to analyze the effectiveness of Virginia's CZM Program and the current health and status of our coastal resources to guide the future activities of the Program
3. Recommend funding levels

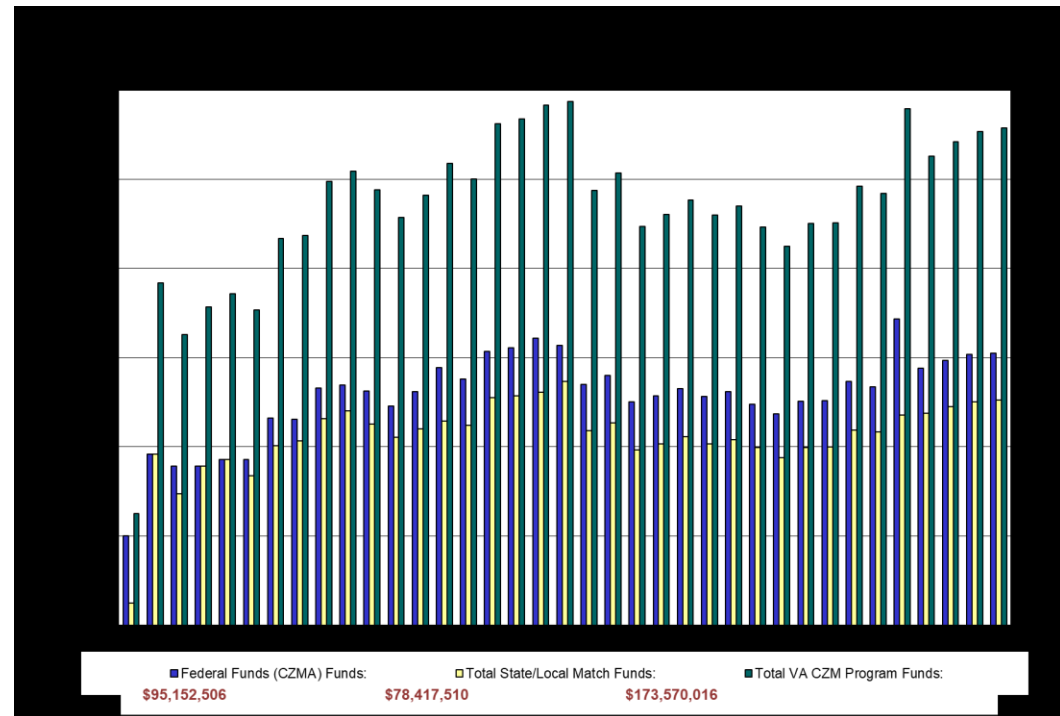


Our Roles & Responsibilities

- *There are no Coastal Policy Team by-laws.*
- Votes and voices impact important things.
- Need to be informed. Need to be engaged.
- Each represents their agencies, organizations, and interests.
- As a team, we represent CZM & CPT.

Virginia CZM Program Funding

- 100% of its funding under the federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (CZMA)
- Virginia is awarded funds based on the size of our coastal population and the length of our tidal shoreline
- Currently receive about \$3 million annually



NOAA Section 312 Evaluation Findings

Program Administration

Accomplishment - CPT effective at bringing agencies, local government, universities, together to move priorities forward.

Accomplishment - Developed concise narrative enforceable policies, incorporated into Program.

Recommendation – Work with NOAA OCM to educate federal license and permit applicants regarding CZMA federal consistency requirements.

NOAA Section 312 Evaluation Findings

Ocean Planning

Accomplishment – Regional ocean management, Mid-Atlantic Ocean Data Portal, support/outreach to fishing industry.

Recommendation – Develop state ocean plan, or otherwise address ocean policy/planning for Virginia.

Marine Debris

Accomplishment – Leader on regional/state level action on marine debris

NOAA Section 312 Evaluation Findings

Community and Ecosystem Resilience

Accomplishment – Improve public access and grow ecotourism on Eastern Shore

Accomplishment – Long-term investment in supporting eelgrass, bay scallops, and oyster restoration.

Accomplishment – Lower Chickahominy Watershed Collaborative – MOU between three local govt, two pdcs, & three federally recognized tribes for overarching vision for land use, conservation, and economic priorities.

Accomplishment – Plant Virginia Natives Initiative

Recommendation – Continue supporting coastal PDC's and communities to build resilience and access federal funds, and expand successful regional initiatives statewide (Fight the Flood, First Floor Elevations)

Recommendation – Develop Community Based Social Marketing Campaign for living shorelines.

Virginia CZM Focal Area History: FY1999 - FY2023

FY99-FY01 Oyster Heritage Program

FY02-FY07 Seaside Heritage Program

FY08-FY10 Sustainable Coastal Communities

2011-FY16 PDC Competitive & Seaside
Restoration

FY17-FY19 Promoting Sustainable Coastal
Industries & Building Coastal
Resilience for Natural & Human
Communities

FY20-FY22 Resilience: Conservation Targeting,
Nearshore Habitat Design, Ecotourism

FY23-FY25 Resilience: Planning Data, Planning for
Protected Lands, Aggregate Resource
Mapping



Section 309 Overview

- Section 309 of the CZMA requires completion of a Coastal Needs Assessment & Strategy every 5 years (next Assessment = fall 2024)
- Once approved by NOAA, states are eligible to receive match free funds to develop new enforceable policies
- Each grant year does not need to produce a new policy
 - Ex: Lower Chickahominy Watershed
- Virginia receives ~\$500,000/year



Enhancement Areas

- CZM staff evaluates each area & ranks it high, medium or low with feedback from Coastal Policy Team and stakeholders.
- CPT Members individually score each Enhancement Area, scores are summed, & CPT achieves consensus on final Strategies

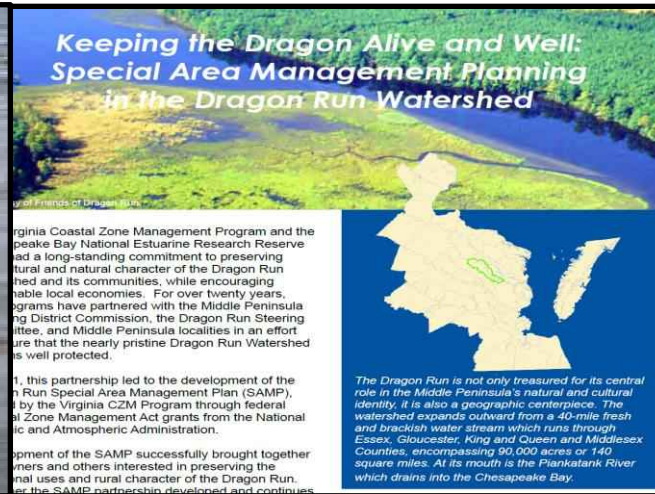


Enhancement Areas, contd.

Cumulative &
Secondary Impacts of
Growth &
Development

Special Area
Management Plans

Marine Debris



Enhancement Areas, contd.

Ocean Resources



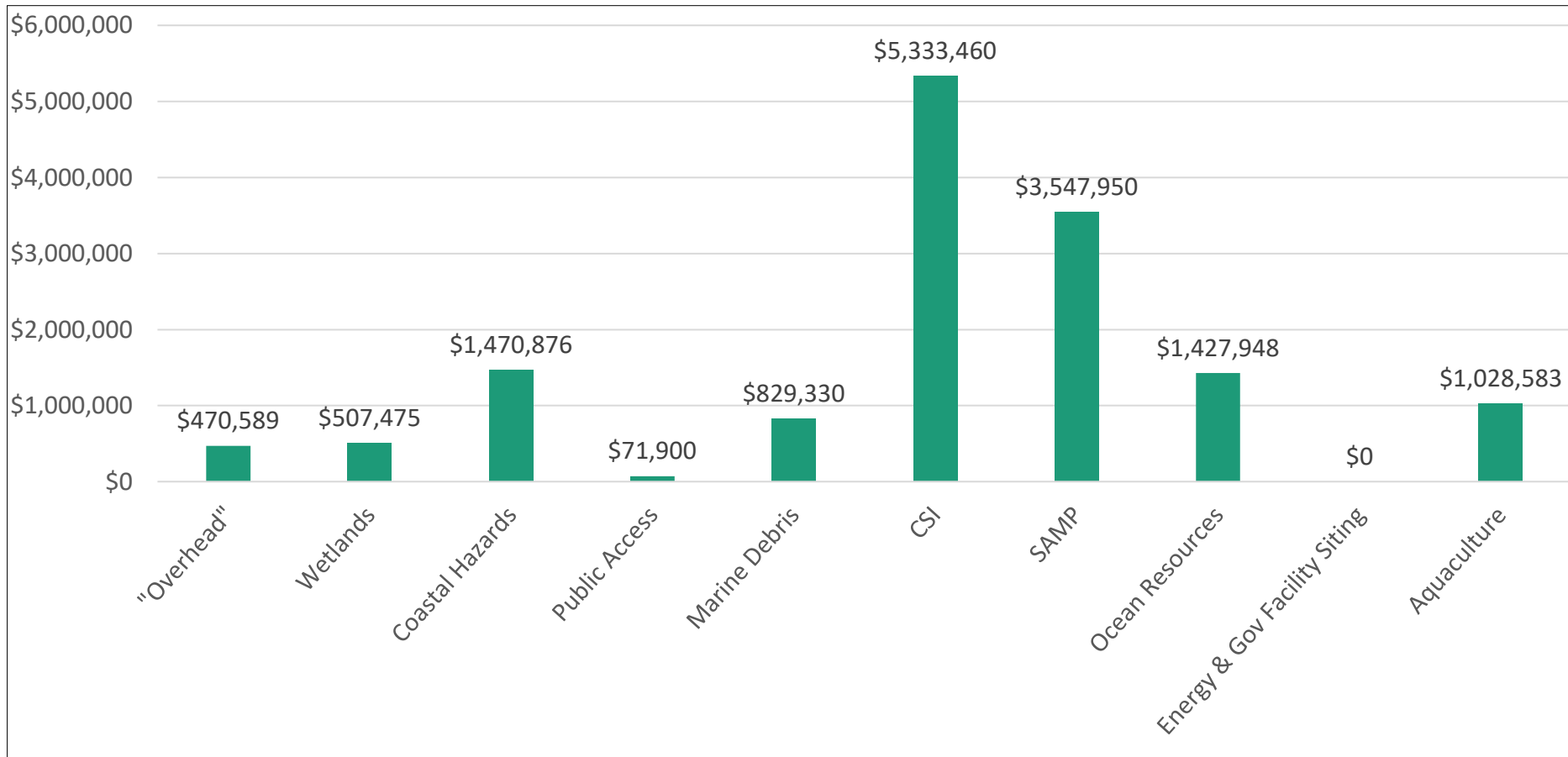
Energy & Government Facility Siting



Aquaculture



Strategy Funding 1998 - 2022



Current Section 309 Strategy (FY2021-2025)

Marine Debris



Coastal Hazards



Ocean Resources



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Wetlands



Coastal Hazards



Public Access



Enhancement Areas, contd.

Marine Debris



Special Area
Management Plans


**Keeping the Dragon Alive and Well:
Special Area Management Planning
in the Dragon Run Watershed**

by Friends of Dragon Run

Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program and the Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve had a long-standing commitment to preserving cultural and natural character of the Dragon Run watershed and its communities, while encouraging sustainable local economies. For over twenty years, programs have partnered with the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission, the Dragon Run Steering Committee, and Middle Peninsula localities in an effort to ensure that the nearly pristine Dragon Run Watershed is well protected.

In 2011, this partnership led to the development of the Dragon Run Special Area Management Plan (SAMP), funded by the Virginia CZM Program through federal Coastal Zone Management Act grants from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The development of the SAMP successfully brought together landowners and others interested in preserving the traditional uses and rural character of the Dragon Run. Under the SAMP partnership, developed and continues



The Dragon Run is not only treasured for its central role in the Middle Peninsula's natural and cultural identity, it is also a geographic centerpiece. The watershed expands outward from a 40-mile fresh and brackish water stream which runs through Essex, Gloucester, King and Queen and Middlesex Counties, encompassing 90,000 acres or 140 square miles. At its mouth is the Piankatank River which drains into the Chesapeake Bay.

Cumulative &
Secondary Impacts of
Growth &
Development



Enhancement Areas, contd.

Ocean Resources



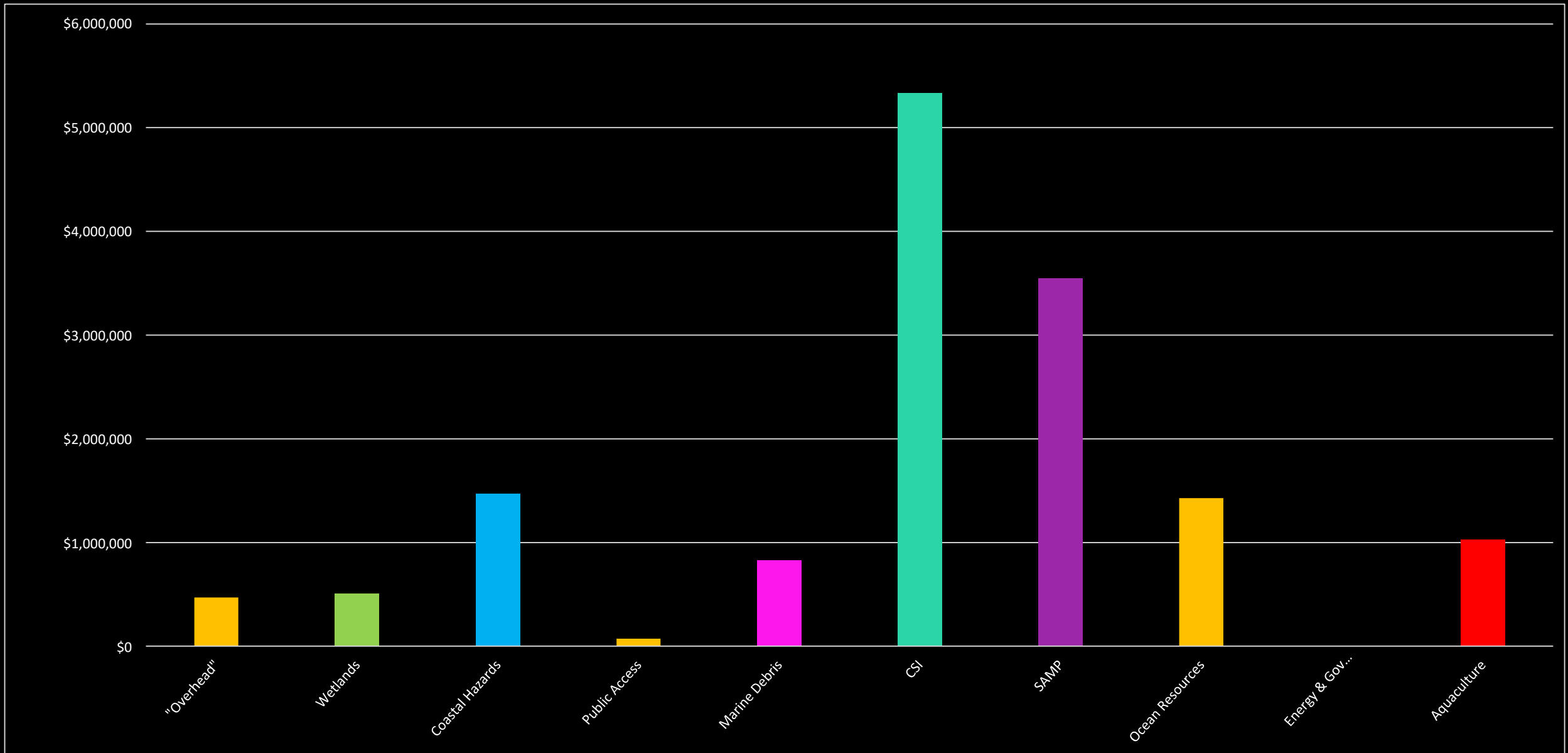
Energy & Government
Facility Siting



Aquaculture



Strategy Funding 1998 - 2022



Past Section 309 Strategies (FY1997-FY2020)

- FY98-FY00: Public Access, Coastal Hazards, CSI, SAMPs, Aquaculture
- FY01-FY05: Wetlands, Coastal Hazards, CSI, SAMPs, Aquaculture
- FY06-FY10: Wetlands, Public Access, SAMPs, Aquaculture, Coastal Hazards, CSI
- FY11-FY15: CSI, SAMPs, Ocean Resources
- FY16-FY20: CSI, Coastal Hazards, Ocean Resources

Current Section 309 Strategy (FY2021-2025)

Marine Debris



Coastal Hazards



Ocean Resources

