

2026 Commonwealth Coastal & Marine Policy Fellowship

Application Deadline: May 1, 2026
Fellowship Start Date: October 1, 2026



PROJECT TITLE:

Agency Scoping Comments Review Coordinator & Habitat Management Division Permit Tracking Database Fellow

HOST AGENCY & PROGRAM:

Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC)
Habitat Management Division

LOCATION:

380 Fenwick Road, Bld. 96
Fort Monroe, VA 23651

OVERVIEW OF AGENCY:

VMRC serves as stewards of the Commonwealth's marine and aquatic resources. The agency manages saltwater fishing, both recreational and commercial, and works to create and maintain sustainable fisheries for the benefit of all anglers and the ecosystem. The agency also manages the state's submerged bottomlands, tidal wetlands, sand dunes, and beaches in order to preserve and protect Virginia's natural resources and the habitat our saltwater fisheries depend on.

POTENTIAL FELLOWSHIP PROJECT:

The Commonwealth Coastal and Marine Policy Fellow will assist VMRC's Habitat Management Division with coordinating agency reviews between the Fisheries and Habitat Management Divisions necessary to draft scoping comments on environmental documents provided to VMRC for review of project activities potentially affecting marine fisheries and habitats. Examples of documents submitted for review include Environmental Assessments, Environmental Impact Statements, and Federal Coastal Zone Management Consistency Determinations. The Fellow will be responsible for initial assessment and coordination of the document reviews between agency divisions and departments.

Additionally, the fellow will conduct field investigations with the Division's eight Environmental Engineers to gain insight on VMRC's administration of its regulatory program governing proposed activities impacting the Commonwealth's state-owned submerged lands, tidal wetlands, coastal primary sand dunes and beaches.

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