

## **MINUTES**

### **Commonwealth Transportation Board Environmental Task Force**

VDOT Central Office  
1401 East Broad Street  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

December 11, 2019

**Task Force members present:**

Scott Kasprowicz (co-Chair), Steve Johnsen (co-Chair), Angel Deem, Mike Fitch, Grant Sparks, Rick Walton, Branco Vlacich, Amy Wight

Meeting called to order at 7:34 a.m.

Welcome by co-Chairs.

Presentation by Angel Deem, VDOT Environmental Division Director.

Adoption of October meeting minutes.

The next meeting of the CTB Environmental Task Force is scheduled for 7:30 a.m. on Wednesday, January 15, at VDOT Central Office, 1401 East Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23219.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 a.m.



# Environmental Division

**Collaboration & Stewardship**  
**CTB Environmental Task Force**  
**December 11, 2019**

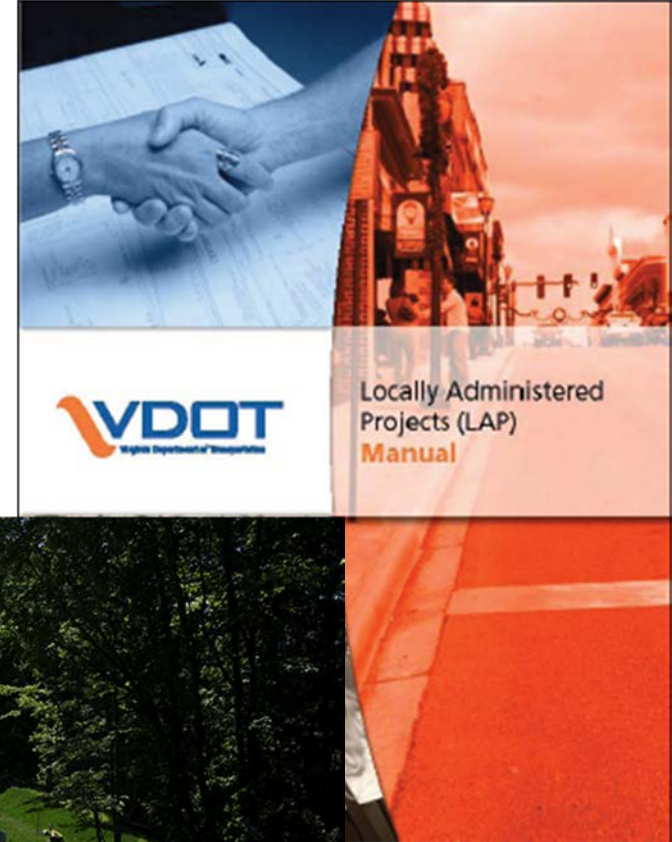
Angel Deem  
Environmental Division Director

# Collaboration



# Locally Administered Project Support

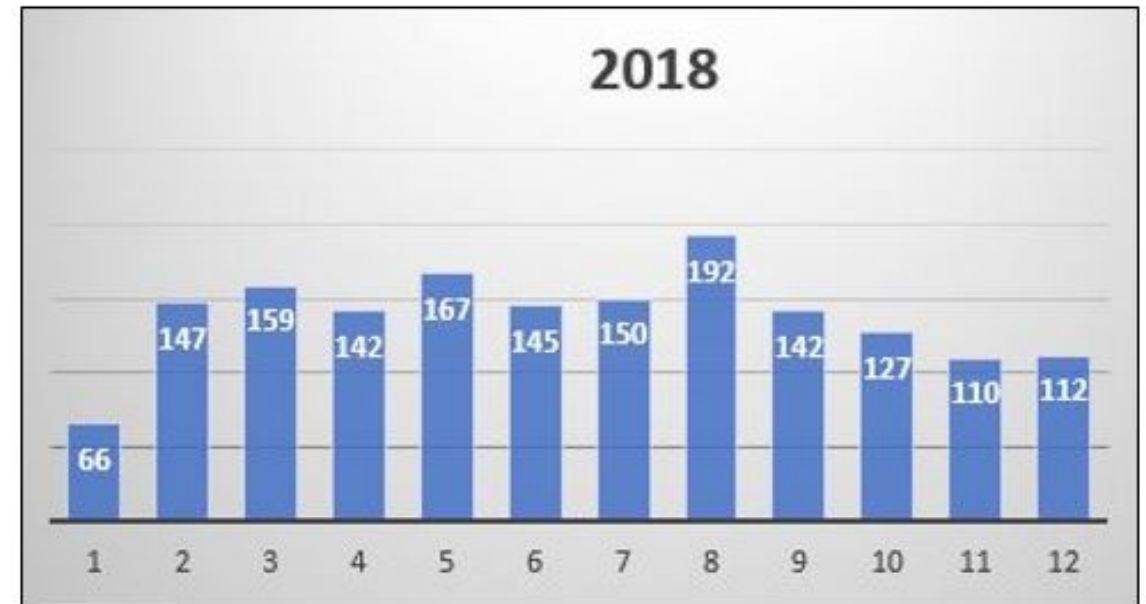
- Complete reviews for TAP and SGR Paving Program
- Provide tools to assist localities with clearances
- Work to create consistency with delivery of environmental tasks
- Participate on Local Partnership Team



# Historic Property Reviews

## Statewide Section 106 Programmatic Agreement

- Significantly expedites required review of historic preservation impacts from transportation projects
- Signatories:
  - FHWA
  - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Norfolk District
  - Tennessee Valley Authority
  - Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
  - Virginia State Historic Preservation Officer



1,659 projects cleared by VDOT saving time for both VDOT & the Virginia Department of Historic Resources



# Historic Property Reviews



## Interagency Historic Structures Task Group (HSTG)

- Interagency collaboration on the identification and treatment of VDOT's historic bridges
- Collaboration among:
  - VDOT
  - FHWA
  - Virginia Department of Historic Resources
  - Virginia Transportation Research Council

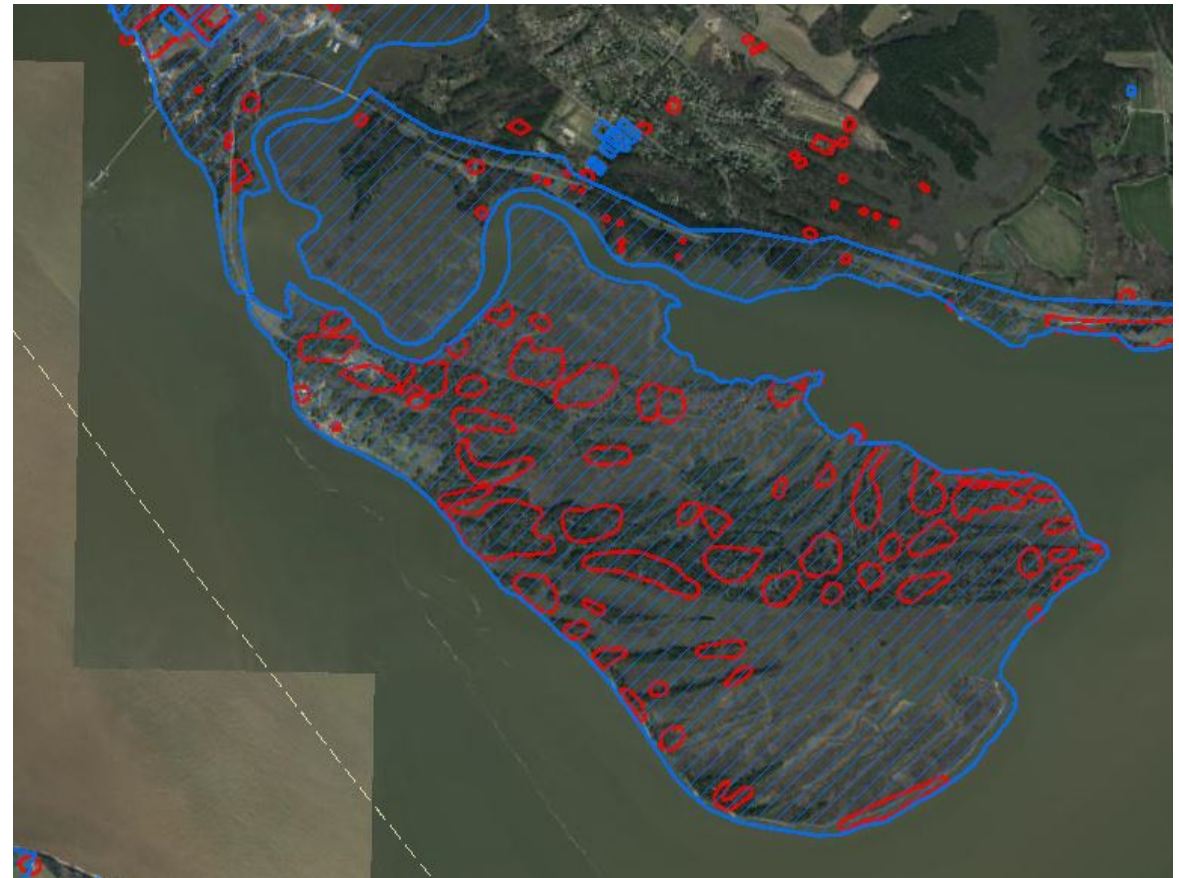
# Historic Property Reviews

## Virginia Cultural Resources Inventory System (VCRIS) Enhancement Support

- VDOT has sponsored enhancements to VDHR's VCRIS digital inventory system
- Mutual benefit to both agencies



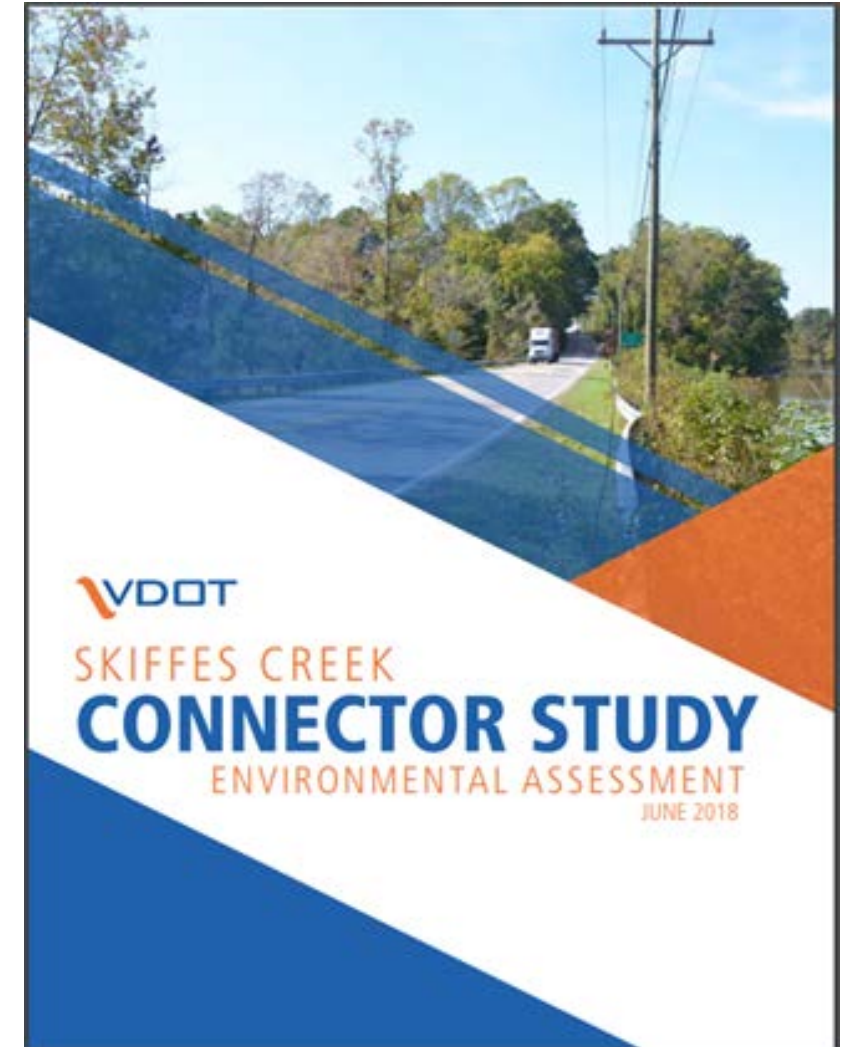
**DHR** | Virginia Department of Historic Resources





# NEPA Day

- Monthly meeting with federal, state, and local agency partners to discuss the most complex transportation projects undergoing NEPA study
- Team approach to achieve collaborative agreement
  - Purpose and Need
  - Range of Alternatives
  - Preferred Alternative



# Permitting Interagency Coordination Meeting (IACM)

## Attendees:

- USACE
- DEQ
- USFWS
- DGIF
- NOAA-NMFS
- VMRC
- DCR-Division of Natural Heritage



# Air Quality

- TCI supports regional priorities such as clean fuels & vehicles and potential regional policies to improve transportation systems and reduce GHG pollution
- VDOT actively monitoring progress of this important initiative



# Air Quality - Support for Electric Vehicles

Participating with VDEQ, DMME, and Virginia Clean Cities by providing signage to alert drivers of nearby EV charging infrastructure





# Air Quality - Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Funding Coordination

Work with eligible Virginia Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) to utilize for transportation projects that reduce vehicle emissions & GHGs

- Alternate fuel vehicles and refueling infrastructure
- Transit
- Bicycle and pedestrian pathways
- Shared ride programs (e.g., RideFinders, Commuter Connections)
- Traffic flow improvement programs



# Air Quality - Governor's Alternate Fuel Vehicle Initiative

Working with DMME and Virginia Clean Cities to provide CMAQ funding incentives for the conversion of state and local fleet vehicles to alternative fuels such as electricity, natural gas (CNG), or propane (LPG)





# Public Access to Water

- VDOT Agreement with the DCR and DGIF for cooperative action for recreational public water access
- Annual meeting
- Identify potential projects on the Six Year Improvement Program that have potential to facilitate public access



Site of Clarkton Bridge, Charlotte County, under consideration for public access to Staunton River

# State Agency Streamlining Agreements

- Targeted streamlining of agency reviews of VDOT construction projects & maintenance activities
- Programmatically establish level of review & applicable standard recommendations
- Reduces workload for both agencies





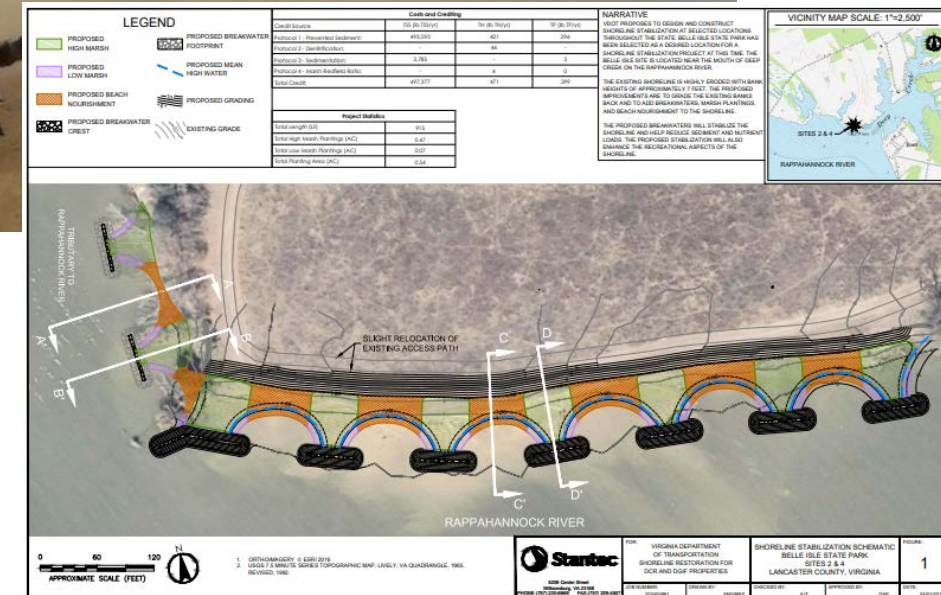
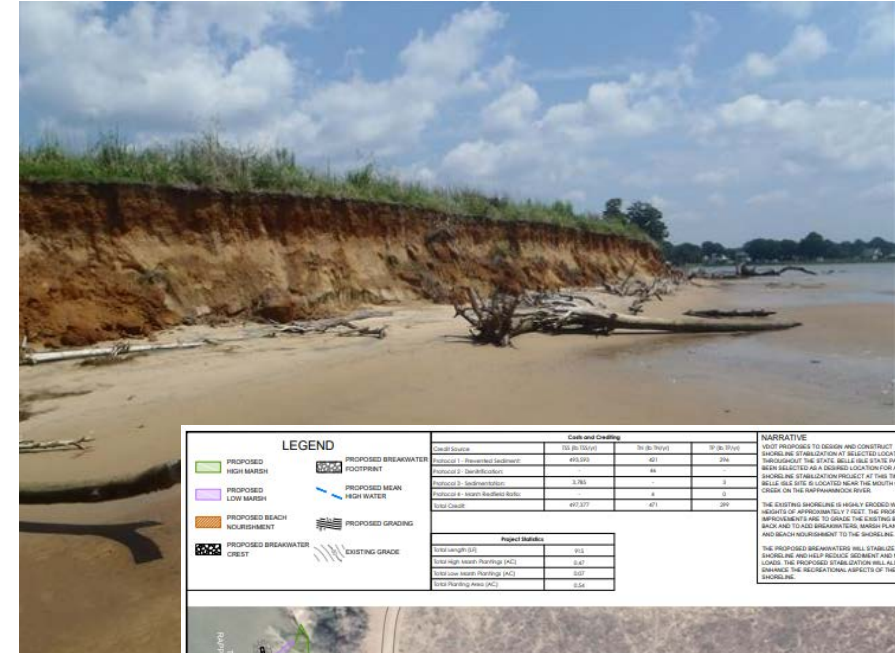
# Species Distribution Models

- VDOT provided \$0.5M Funding for DCR to develop threatened and endangered species habitat models to better predict habitat locations
- Mutual benefits in streamlining DCR and VDOT project review process



# Teaming to Clean up the Chesapeake Bay

- Department of Conservation & Recreation - State Parks
  - MOA for parkland shoreline stabilization
- Local Governments, State and Federal Agencies & Non-Profit Organizations
  - On-going Discussions regarding potential stream restoration, shoreline stabilization, tree planting & credit sharing partnerships



# Stewardship



# Monarch Butterfly Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA)

- Joined nationwide agreement between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), VDOT, and approximately 30 other non-federal partners
- Identifying areas to voluntarily limit mowing strategies to create monarch habitat and promote species conservation
- Goal to prevent or reverse further species decline and avoid listing under the Endangered Species Act



Nationwide Candidate Conservation Agreement for Monarch Butterfly on Energy and Transportation Lands

An Integrated Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA) and Candidate Conservation Agreement (CCA)



# Advances through Environmental Research

- Development and Testing of Environmental DNA (eDNA) Protocols for Threatened and Endangered Species
- Control of Non-Native and Invasive Plant Species in Rights-of-Way
- Incorporating Climate Change Adaptation into VDOT Culvert and Bridge Designs



# Roadkill Composting

- Implementation of VDOT Environmental Research
- Forced-air animal composting for soil-amendments (7 locations)
- Media Coverage: Reuters, Waste360, WAMU, Virginia Pilot, etc.



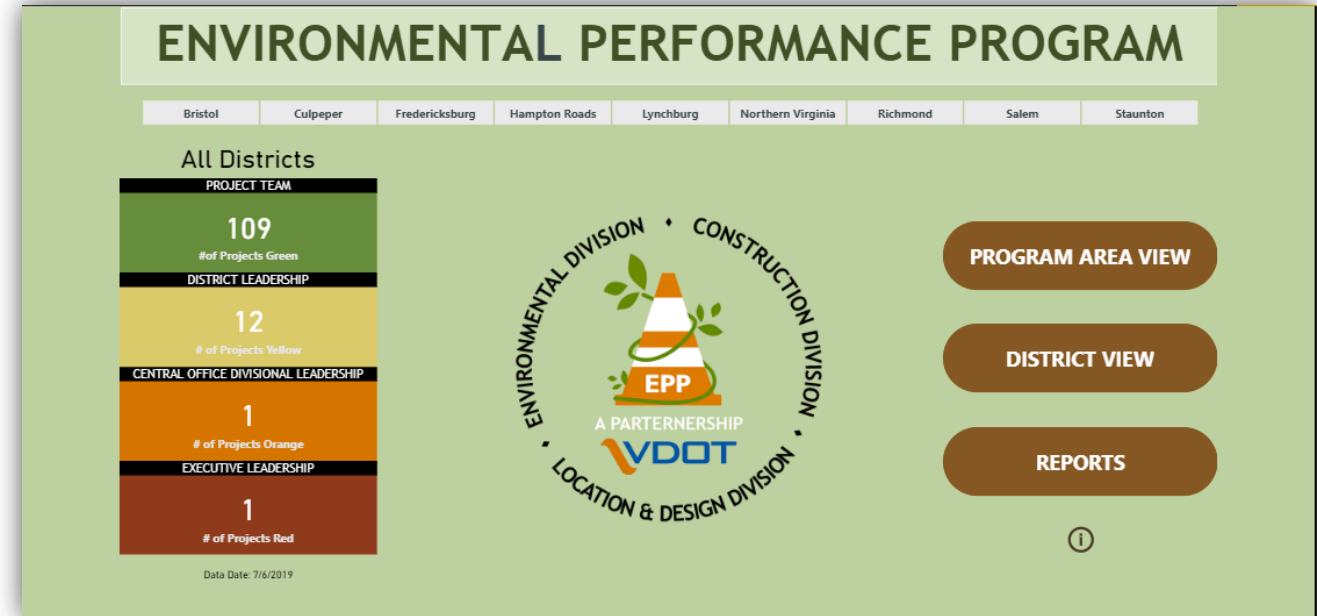
# Collection and Recycling of Runoff from Salt Storage/Loading Facilities

- Implementation of VDOT Environmental Research
- Salt-containing runoff collected in storage ponds or tanks
- Pond/tank water used in Brine production for anti-icing operations.



# Environmental Performance Program (EPP)

- Environmental Compliance Reviews of VDOT Construction and Maintenance Projects
- Results and Corrective Actions systematically tracked, scored, and reported






# Environmental Review of New Products

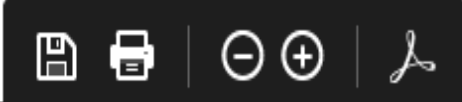
Review for potential environmental impact such as -

- human and environmental toxicity
- waste characteristics
- disposal requirements



# Environmental Commitment Tracking





**Environmental Division**  
Performance Assistance Program  
Commitment(s) Performance Report

District	Residency	County	District Env. Manager (DEM)	<b>Non-Compliant Finding(s) Alert: No</b>
Lynchburg	Appomattox	Campbell	Bradley, Kevin R. (434) 656-8288	
Project Number	JPC	Project Name		
0029-162-270	104944	Rte 29 Bridge over Staunton River & NSRR, Altavista		

**Water Quality Permits**

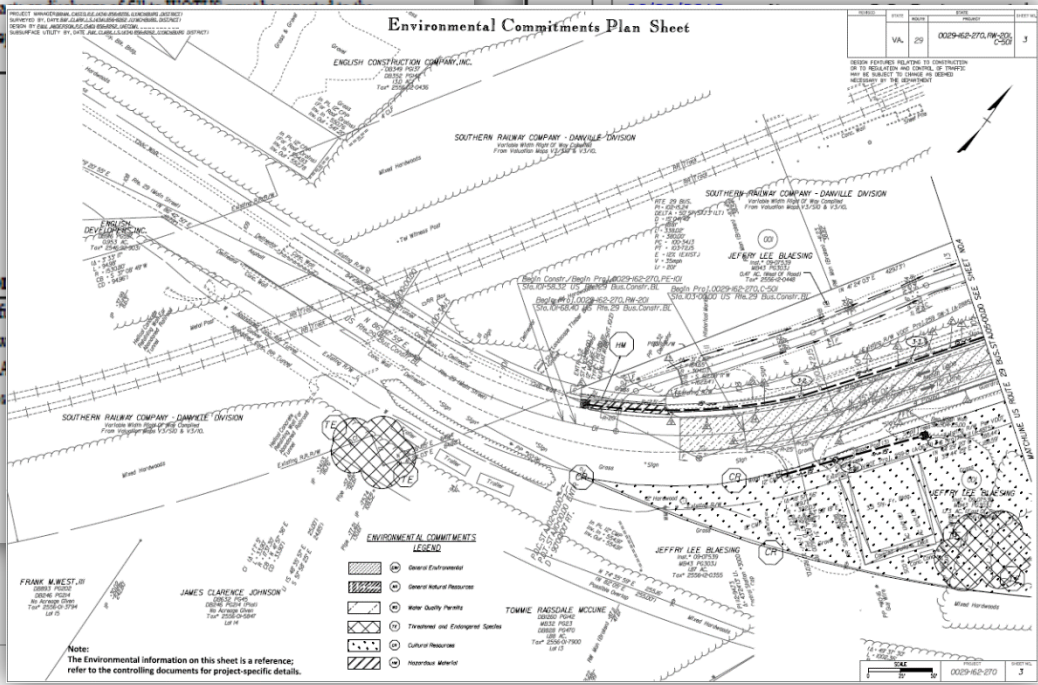
Commitment Name: Monitor Compliance with Water Quality Permits  
 Description: WQ Permits authorize impacts to WOTUS. May include commitments for T&E, CR and E&S measures. Commitments and permit conditions may be subject Contractor and/or Department regulatory enforcement. Any proposed deviations to any commitments and WQ permits must be coordinated through DEM/ECI. Unauthorized impacts to WOTUS are prohibited. Other activities not in compliance WQ permits shall be reported to DEM/ECI.

Inspection Status: Compliant  
 Classification: Amount of Precipitation(inches):  
 Report Date: 07/01/2019  
 Inspection Frequency: Biweekly  
 Environmental Compliance Inspector: Barnes, Blake

Duration:  
 Type of Storm:  
 Inspection Date: 07/01/2019  
 Contractor: ENGLISH CONSTRUCTION

**Project Area Observed: Jurisdiction**  
 ESC measures for drilling operations need to be carefully monitored to ensure no impacts to jurisdictional areas within English Park. Now is working to move causeway in the Staunton River. A process of moving causeway. Ensure that all activities

Area of Technical Assistance:  
 Summary of Technical Assistance:  
 Follow Up Date: 07/18/2019



Summary	IPM Activities	Tasks	Forms	Documents	Commitments	Journal	Assets
<b>Commitments</b>							
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Date	Task Related	Identified By	Name	End Date	Status	Assigned To	Inspector
<b>CULTURAL RESOURCES</b>							
<input type="checkbox"/> 06/01/2017	No	District Environmental	Heritage tourism signage		In Progress	Yes	
<input type="checkbox"/> 06/01/2017	No	District Environmental	Review of design and scale of replacement bridge	05/15/2018	Complete	Yes	
<input type="checkbox"/> 06/01/2017	No	District Environmental	Recordation of existing bridge	04/11/2018	Complete	Yes	
<input type="checkbox"/> 06/01/2017	No	District Environmental	Reproduction of bridge plans	08/07/2017	Complete	No	
			Cultural Resources Avoidance Areas		In Progress	Yes	
			Road/pathway fencing	03/08/2019	Complete	Yes	
			Avoidance Area_ Boy Scout Orchard Area within English Park		In Progress	Yes	
			Construction Staging Areas		In Progress	Yes	
			Reconfiguration of Park Access Road		In Progress	Yes	
			Right-of-Way and Easements		In Progress	Yes	
			Pedestrian Access Trail		In Progress	Yes	
			Scope of work and project limits		In Progress	Yes	
			Identification and Avoidance of Asbestos Containing Materials (ACM)	08/27/2018	Complete	Yes	
			Management of Contaminated Soils		In Progress	Yes	
			Management of Contaminated Groundwater	07/01/2019	Complete	Yes	

# Resource Conservation

## Office Recycling



## Capital Outlay Projects

- Energy demand program achieved 70% reduction for CO Facilities
- Water-Saving Fixtures for New and Replacement
- LED Lighting for all new fixtures
- LEED Platinum (or VEES) for all new Building Construction > 5000 SF





# Natural Channel Design

- Natural Channel Design techniques are utilized on many of our roadway and bridge projects that require the relocation, stabilization and maintenance of streams
- Generally requires less maintenance compared to traditional engineering solutions





