

Appendix I

Phase I: *Proof of Concept* Report

National Sea Grant Law Center 2019 Small Grants Competition: Final Report

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Project Co-PIs: Jennifer Dindinger, Maryland Sea Grant Extension; Nicole Cook, University of Maryland Eastern Shore; Sarah Everhart, Agriculture and Law Education Initiative; Eva May, Maryland Sea Grant

Project Title: Maryland Sea Grant and the Agriculture Law and Education Initiative: Building legal research, education, and outreach capacity to support stakeholder needs in Maryland

Reporting Period: February 1, 2019 – January 31, 2020

Submission Date: April 24, 2020

This report was prepared by Eva May, with input from the PI and Co-PIs.

Background

The National Sea Grant College Program (NSGCP) was established in 1966 with a focus on solving environmental issues through partnerships with universities. Shortly thereafter, the first Sea Grant legal program was established through Louisiana Sea Grant, followed by several other Sea Grant legal programs. The National Sea Grant Law Center (NSGLC, est. 2002) and the Sea Grant Legal Network (est. 2009) were created to aid in the coordination of Sea Grant law and policy efforts. The NSGCP currently has four fully established law programs on the East Coast in the United States: North Carolina Coastal Resources Law, Planning, and Policy Center; Virginia Coastal Policy Center; Rhode Island Sea Grant Legal Program; and Georgia Sea Grant Legal Program. However, no Sea Grant legal programs exist in the Mid-Atlantic states north of Virginia and south of Connecticut, leaving a noticeable gap in coastal legal education and policy in the region.

In 2018, the NSGLC led a national call for proposals open to all Sea Grant programs interested in exploring their capacity to build a legal program and how that program might operate. Maryland Sea Grant (MDSG) has long been interested in exploring opportunities to develop legal capacity and/or build partnerships with local legal institutions. The University System of Maryland lacks a coastal legal policy program with whom to partner, but since 2013, the state of Maryland has supported the Agriculture Law Education Initiative (ALEI), a multi-institutional program focused on improving agriculture legal knowledge across the state. MDSG was interested in developing a partnership with ALEI to build MDSG's legal capacity, so the two programs worked together to submit this Phase I proposal. In exploring the partnership with ALEI through the NSGLC grant, MDSG's goal was to determine the feasibility of a collaborative coastal law and policy resource in Maryland that would benefit both programs and serve our stakeholders. A secondary goal was to investigate the eventual creation of a multi-state program or partnership that could serve the Delmarva (Delaware, Maryland, Virginia) peninsula as a whole, in addition to individual states serving their respective areas. As a result, MDSG

submitted a proposal with Delaware Sea Grant (DESG). This proposal focused on developing capacity within Maryland and highlighting areas that MDSG and DESG could collaborate to address issues that span the Delmarva peninsula. MDSG sought to achieve these goals primarily through: i) creating and disseminating a coastal legal needs assessment survey in Maryland; ii) discussing Sea Grant legal structures with existing Sea Grant legal programs through visits and other correspondence (in-person meetings, phone calls, web-based research); and iii) bringing together constituents and potential partners to discuss Maryland Sea Grant legal program priority topics, implementation, and institutional capacity.

Efforts and Results

Team Collaboration and Strategies

The team developed a project timeline focused on: i) increasing understanding of existing Sea Grant legal programs through correspondence and visits; ii) developing and distributing a needs assessment survey for Maryland stakeholders; and iii) bringing potential partners and collaborators together for a final workshop or symposium. Weekly check-in calls and a shared Google drive were set up for maximum efficiency. Shana Jones, director of Georgia Sea Grant's legal program, was hired as a consultant on the grant. Occasional in-person meetings were also conducted. Throughout the process, our team assigned specific tasks to individual team members, in order to capitalize on different skill sets and maintain all members' involvement.

A very productive planning session was held in September 2019 at the Wye Research and Education Center in Queenstown, MD. The team made decisions based on the work mentioned above and did thorough planning for a final roundtable symposium with our constituents.

MDSG and DESG Collaboration

For the first half of this project's efforts, the Delaware and Maryland teams brainstormed together on how to best assess the need for coastal legal resources in their states and across the region as a whole. Accordingly, the two institutions worked together to create similar, though not identical, needs assessment surveys for each state [see Appendix A]. Dr. Christian Hauser, the Associate Director of Delaware Sea Grant, frequently joined MDSG's weekly check-in calls. As both Delaware and Maryland teams made progress, ideas about potential structures and partnerships were solidified, which in turn led to each program moving in a different direction. DESG worked with Widener University Delaware Law School throughout the process of this grant, gaining input from its students on their survey and potential program structures. During this time, it became clear that collaboration between Maryland and Delaware was not realistic outside of the creation of similar needs assessment surveys. The two teams spent the latter part of the grant period focused on their respective states, giving MDSG and DESG the opportunity to

take an in-depth look at which model(s) could work for each of them. Once both programs are further into the process of creating legal resources, we hope to restart the conversation of comparing stakeholder needs, Sea Grant responses, and collaborative opportunities to help the peninsula.

Learning from our neighbors: Visit with Virginia Coastal Policy Center

While the Maryland team was able to learn about existing programs via websites and email/phone correspondence, the team also thought it would be valuable to visit an existing program. The Virginia Coastal Policy Center (VCPC), hosted at the William & Mary Law School, is funded by several entities, including Virginia Sea Grant (VASG). This policy clinic is a well-established legal resource for the Virginia coasts and Chesapeake Bay watershed. It has gained recognition throughout the Chesapeake Bay, and the Maryland team gained useful insight from a day-long in-person visit in mid-April 2019. During this visit, Maryland and Delaware met with Elizabeth Andrews, Angela King, and several students from VCPC, as well as Dr. Troy Hartley and colleagues with VASG [see Appendix B for meeting agenda]. The meeting allowed Maryland and Delaware to get an up close look at how the policy clinic at William & Mary Law School operates; their current projects; how William & Mary Law School students fit into this model, and to ask questions about forming and growing a legal program within a Sea Grant program. VCPC is overseen by and employs/teaches students from William & Mary Law School. It receives funding from a number of academic and non-governmental sources and bases its projects and deliverables on needs articulated by its funders and communities. Speaking with the VCPC team also gave MDSG and ALEI the opportunity to get feedback on our ideas of a starting point for our law and policy program. It further solidified the importance of collaboration between VCPC, VASG, and MDSG. The close overlap of our missions to support a healthy and economically viable Chesapeake Bay region highlight the critical importance of our coordination on Bay-wide legal as well as science issues.

Survey Development, Distribution, and Analysis

Outreach to existing Sea Grant legal programs showed that none of the programs had ever conducted a comprehensive needs assessment survey when developing their legal programs. The Maryland team chose to do a needs assessment survey to determine if our stakeholders saw a need for a coastal law and policy resource in Maryland, and if so, to identify those needs. The content of the Maryland survey was largely influenced by current issues being addressed within the Sea Grant legal network, as well as the team's knowledge of relevant coastal environmental legal questions in Maryland. The draft survey was completed in spring 2019 and reviewed by team members and the University of Maryland College Park's Institutional Review Board (IRB #1412434-2). In summer 2019, the finalized survey was disseminated to Marylanders who live and/or work on the coast. Most participants received the survey via a Qualtrics link in an email,

however some were given the survey at in-person gatherings such as the July 2019 Maryland Aquaculture Coordinating Council meeting. The survey asked stakeholders about their legal needs related to aquaculture, stormwater, and resilience issues. Questions also allowed for open-ended responses to capture respondents' additional legal needs beyond the survey questions. (See Appendix C for the full survey results).

After receiving more than 300 survey responses, the team analyzed the response data. Sixty five percent of respondents expressed a need for more information about regulations and policies related to stormwater management, shoreline restoration, or use of Maryland's coasts. The majority of these respondents indicated their priority was sea level rise and property impacts data. Almost 150 respondents indicated a need for aquaculture and fisheries policy and regulation information in Maryland. The majority of these respondents expressed a desire for nutrient leasing/trading and leasing and legal compliance data. The results of these analyses drove the eventual roundtable discussions and gave a clear picture of the benefits to MDSG and ALEI stakeholders of a Maryland coastal legal resource.

Respondents who indicated a need for information on shoreline/stormwater issues were mainly state government workers, University researchers, and Extension employees.

Respondents who indicated a need for information on fisheries/aquaculture issues were similar, but also included nonprofit employees. Additionally, mechanisms for information delivery needs were comparable across both sectors as noted below:

- 1) Those who wanted information on shoreline/stormwater issues largely preferred to receive the information in the following formats:
 - Online fact sheets and publications (96%)
 - Online videos (81%)
 - Live or recorded webinars (81%)
 - Professional publications (71%)
 - In-person workshops (62%)
 - Phone call to a specialist (62%)
- 2) Those who wanted information on fisheries/aquaculture issues largely preferred to receive the information in the following formats:
 - Online fact sheets and publications (98%)
 - Online videos (83%)
 - Live or recorded webinars (82%)
 - Professional publications (80%)
 - In-person workshops (67%)
 - Phone call to a specialist (64%)

The completed survey was also shared with DESG. Based on stakeholder results, another, shorter survey was developed for those who were invited to the final meeting for the grant, as detailed below.

Maryland Coastal Law and Policy Roundtable

The Maryland team continued with the original idea of summing up efforts and sharing ideas with constituents and potential partners by hosting the Maryland Coastal Law and Policy Roundtable (Roundtable) in December 2019. One modification to the original proposal was that MDSG and DESG did not present results together, although DESG participated and contributed at the Roundtable. The Maryland needs assessment survey results drove the Roundtable agenda (Appendix D) and the discussion points. Invited speakers focused on key programs within the Sea Grant Legal Network. These speakers included Elizabeth Andrews, VCPC; Troy Hartley, VASG; Shana Jones, Georgia Sea Grant's legal program; and Stephanie Showalter-Ott, National Sea Grant Law Center. The fifty person Roundtable resulted in productive conversations focused on constituent and partner needs, how to most effectively deliver legal and policy information to stakeholders, and how best to build the initial foundation for this program. (see Appendix E for a full synopsis of the Roundtable).

The Roundtable opened with brief statements from Maryland team members about the grant's purpose, the project approach, and our accomplishments leading up to the Roundtable meeting. The remainder of the morning was devoted to presentations from members of the Sea Grant legal network about program structures, recent and current projects, funding sources, and student opportunities.

Following a networking lunch, attendees self-selected to join small group discussions on topics ascertained from the needs assessment survey. The Maryland team worked with an excellent team of lead facilitators from the Carey Law Alternative Dispute Resolution Center, as well as facilitators for each small group discussion. Participants at each table responded to the following questions: i) Why each person chose the table topic they identified as their priority issue; ii) Which legal and policy resources (either from a list we provided or other resources) would best help them address this issue; and iii) Which MDSG law and policy program organizational structure would best work for delivering their identified resource needs. Responses were collected, shared, and compared with all participants. The Roundtable wrapped up by collecting various levels of promised, continued commitment from attendees. All attendees committed to staying informed as efforts to build this resource continue, and some pledged to aid in finding additional funding and creating connections for potential partnerships. This information, along with ideas on building a program and the foundation of its output materials, as well as contacts to follow up with going forward, were processed after the event. Below is a table outlining major findings from the event's group discussions.

Top Legal Resource Delivery Mechanisms	Top Legal Program Structure Ideas
Online information relating to existing resources, regulations, and partnerships	Website acting as an information hub and knowledge transfer/communications forum
Informative written materials, such as fact sheets and white papers	In-house attorney or legal specialist
Educational resources such as seminars, workshops, and webinars	Legal fellow(s), intern(s), and/or extern(s)
Point person(s) who can answer questions in a more informal setting	Partnership with a law school to create white papers and develop an information resource for stakeholders
Provide synopses of pertinent legal cases	Extension specialist with legal knowledge

Next Steps

Based on the efforts in the Phase I grant, we anticipate applying for Phase II funding to secure partial support to hire a Maryland Sea Grant Legal Fellow. We anticipate the new Maryland Sea Grant Legal Fellow position will be a full-time one- to two-year (funding dependent) pilot fellowship. An ideal candidate for this fellowship would be a recent law school graduate interested in gaining valuable training in aquaculture, stormwater management, and coastal resilience legal education issues. The position would be focused on legal scholarship and education for 2-3 primary projects, and would be modeled after existing Sea Grant legal policy fellows in the Sea Grant network and the ALEI fellowship program. We intend to use this fellowship as a means of continuing to partner with ALEI, to bring in other potential project partners to help oversee the fellow, and to focus on efforts to more firmly establish Maryland Sea Grant's place in the Sea Grant legal network and Maryland's coastal legal education and outreach network.

If our proposal is funded, we intend to use the Phase II award to partially support this fellowship position for one year. We anticipate the Maryland Sea Grant Legal Fellow position will start in early fall 2020. Details on the Maryland Sea Grant Legal Policy Fellow position will be provided in the Phase II proposal to be submitted to the National Sea Grant Law Center competition in April. This final report, submitted to NSGLC, fulfills the Phase II proposal requirement.

Appendices:

Appendix A: Needs assessment survey questions

Appendix B: Agenda for VCPC and VASG meetings

Appendix C: Needs assessment survey results and analysis

Appendix D: *Maryland Coastal Law and Policy Roundtable* agenda

Appendix E: *Maryland Coastal Law and Policy Roundtable* synopsis

Appendix A.

MD Legal Capacity Needs Assessment

Start of Block: IRB block-MDSG Legal

Q1 Informed Consent – Maryland Legal Capacity Needs Assessment CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the need for capacity within MD Sea Grant to address legal issues important to our constituents. This research is being conducted by Jennifer Dindinger, Watershed Restoration Specialist with UMD Sea Grant Extension as well as partners from MD Sea Grant, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, and UMD Carey School of Law. If you have any questions about the research study itself, please contact Jennifer at jdinding@umd.edu or 240.393.7915.

PROCEDURES

Participation in this survey is voluntary. If you choose not to participate, this will have no adverse effects on your relationship to the University of Maryland.

Your responses to this survey will be kept confidential.

The survey contains 9 questions and should take approximately **6 minutes** to complete. A typical question in this survey is: "If Maryland Sea Grant could provide education and information resources about coastal and ocean laws and policies, would you use those resources in your work or for your own property?"

POTENTIAL RISKS AND DISCOMFORTS

There are no known risks to participating in this study.

POTENTIAL BENEFITS

There are no direct, immediate benefits to participants. However, participants are expected to benefit from an improved ability of MD Sea Grant and partner institutions to research and share legal information important to our constituents.

CONFIDENTIALITY

The following steps will be taken to ensure confidentiality of respondents: Respondents will be assured that their responses are confidential and that no personally identifiable information is being collected or shared. If respondents report a problem or concern and ask to be contacted, a representative from the Sea Grant Extension Program (SGEP) will do so. All electronic data will be stored on the Investigator's password-protected computer at the County Extension office in Cambridge, MD.

RIGHT TO WITHDRAW AND QUESTIONS

Your participation in this research is completely voluntary. You may choose not to take part at all. If you decide to participate in this research, you may stop participating at any time. If you decide not to participate in this study or if you stop participating at any time, you will not be penalized or lose any benefits for which you otherwise qualify. If you have questions, concerns, or complaints, or if you need to report an injury related to the research, please contact the principal investigator:

Jennifer Dindinger
Watershed Restoration Specialist
UMD Sea Grant Extension
501 Court Lane Suite 208
Cambridge, MD 21613
410.228.8800
jdinding@umd.edu

PARTICIPANT RIGHTS

If you have any questions about your rights as a research participant or wish to report a research-related injury, please contact:

University of Maryland College Park
Institutional Review Board Office
1204 Marie Mount Hall
College Park, Maryland, 20742
E-mail: irb@umd.edu
Telephone: 301-405-0678

This study has been reviewed according to the University of Maryland, College Park, Institutional Review Board procedures for research involving human subjects.

By clicking on the red arrow and taking the survey, you are indicating that you are at least 18 years of age; that the research has been described to you; that your questions have been fully answered; and that you freely and voluntarily chose to participate in this research project.

End of Block: IRB block-MDSG Legal

Start of Block: Default Question Block

Q2 Do you have a need for more information about regulations and policies in Maryland related to stormwater management, shoreline use, or the use of the coast?

- Yes (1)
- No (2)

Skip To: Q13 If Do you have a need for more information about regulations and policies in Maryland related to sto... = No



Q4 What are the top four (4) general issues about which you would like more information? Please number your top four (4) issues, with #1 being the most important issue.

- Sea level rise and its impacts on my community or property (1)
 - Shoreline stabilization (2)
 - Use of groundwater (5)
 - Stormwater management (6)
 - Government's role in protecting communities from extreme weather and coastal flooding (7)
 - Public and private access to rivers, streams, and the coast (8)
 - Flood insurance (9)
 - Shoreline or offshore renewable energy projects (15)
 - N/A (16)
 - Other (10)
-

Q13 Do you have a need for more information about regulations and policies related to aquaculture and fisheries in Maryland?

- Yes (1)
- No (2)

Skip To: Q5 If Do you have a need for more information about regulations and policies related to aquaculture and... = No

Q11 Which of the following aquaculture and fisheries issues would you like more information about? Please check all that apply.

- Food safety and tax laws (1)
 - Nutrient management and nutrient trading (2)
 - Leasing and legal compliance (3)
 - User conflicts (4)
 - N/A (5)
 - Other (6) _____
-

Q12 If Maryland Sea Grant provided resources about your topics of interest, would you use those resources in your work or for your own property?

- Yes (1)
- No (2)

Skip To: End of Block If If Maryland Sea Grant provided resources about your topics of interest, would you use those resou... = No

Q5 How likely would you be to access Maryland Sea Grant resources using the following mechanisms?

	Extremely likely (1)	Somewhat likely (2)	Somewhat unlikely (4)	Extremely unlikely (5)
Online fact sheets and publications (1)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Attending an in-person workshop (2)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Phone call to a specialist (3)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Online videos, e.g. YouTube (4)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Virtual presentations, e.g. live or recorded webinars (5)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Professional publications, e.g. industry, law, science (6)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social media (8)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Podcasts (9)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (7)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

End of Block: Default Question Block

Start of Block: Demographics

Q6 Please enter your home zip code.

Q10 Please enter the zip code where you work.

Q7 Which one of the following best describes the perspective from which you answered the survey?

- Local government employee (1)
- State government employee (2)
- Federal government employee (3)
- University researcher (4)
- Extension employee (5)
- Nonprofit employee (6)
- Farmer (land-based) (7)
- Waterman/woman (8)
- Aquaculture operator (10)
- Coastal/shoreline resident (12)
- Private sector/business (13)
- Other (11) _____

End of Block: Demographics

Appendix B.

Draft Agenda for April 11th visit to VCPC:

Travel to W&M Law School for meetings at VCPC starting at 8:30.

- Discussion of VCPC scope
 - annual conference
 - Practicum courses and deliverables
 - summer fellows
 - partnerships & projects
 - areas of focus, etc.

MD Notes: MD is interested in learning about the logistics of running and managing a Multi-university project, how all of the partner institutions are engaged ((VIMS, William & Mary, ODU?), what the relationship is between VASG and VCPC, how the VCPC program is structured, and based on this experience what advice would they give about the way certain issues are best handled, and how do they find the resources to provide the most effective/appropriate assistance? We are also interested in learning about the intake process from start through completion of “handling” a matter, how issues are identified, how the partners find out from constituents what problems the constituents need legal assistance with, who makes the decisions about which matters the program is going to work on, and how the partners communicate with one another.

Travel to VIMS for lunch in Davis Hall and meetings at VASG offices. Additional lunchtime discussion of long-term options.

- Panel with students (maybe both law and science students)

MD Notes: will these students be from the sea grant clinic and are they working on issues relevant to our programs? MD is also interested in learning whether/how students were involved in the recent joint program project on legal barriers to shellfish aquaculture.

- discussion of integration of law and science

MD Notes: MD is comfortable with our level of understanding of how law and science are integrated so we're okay with spending only a few minutes on this topic.

- MD Addns: Logistics, including funding and reporting
 - Omnibus funded, but non-transactional?
 - How is PIER reporting handled?
- MD Addns: Discussion of potential De-MD-VA regional collaborations and long term planning
 - What are the regional delmarva issues?
 - What does something regional look like?
 - What does having three programs in the Delmarva region mean for addressing regional challenges and opportunities (let's discuss how a regional model might work)
 - What do Widener/DE and UMD currently do to provide legal capacity to stakeholders?
- Possible WebEx call with Stephanie, Troy, and possibly Fred at some point in the day
- Final open session for Q&A, if time then discuss RAFT
 - Resiliency focused, RAFT project?

Appendix C.

Legal Capacity Needs Assessment Analysis

September 19, 2019

Survey responses: 370 recorded responses

Q2: need for more info about regs and policies in MD related to stormwater mgmt., shoreline restoration, or use of the coast

Total count: 333

Yes: 218 (65%)

No: 115 (35%)

Of the Yes votes, top 4 priority topics:

1. SLR and its impacts on my property
2. Stormwater management
3. Shoreline stabilization
4. Government's role in protecting communities from extreme weather and coastal flooding

Q4: need for more info about regs and policies in MD related to aquaculture and fisheries?

Total count: 316

Yes: 142 (45%)

No: 174 (55%)

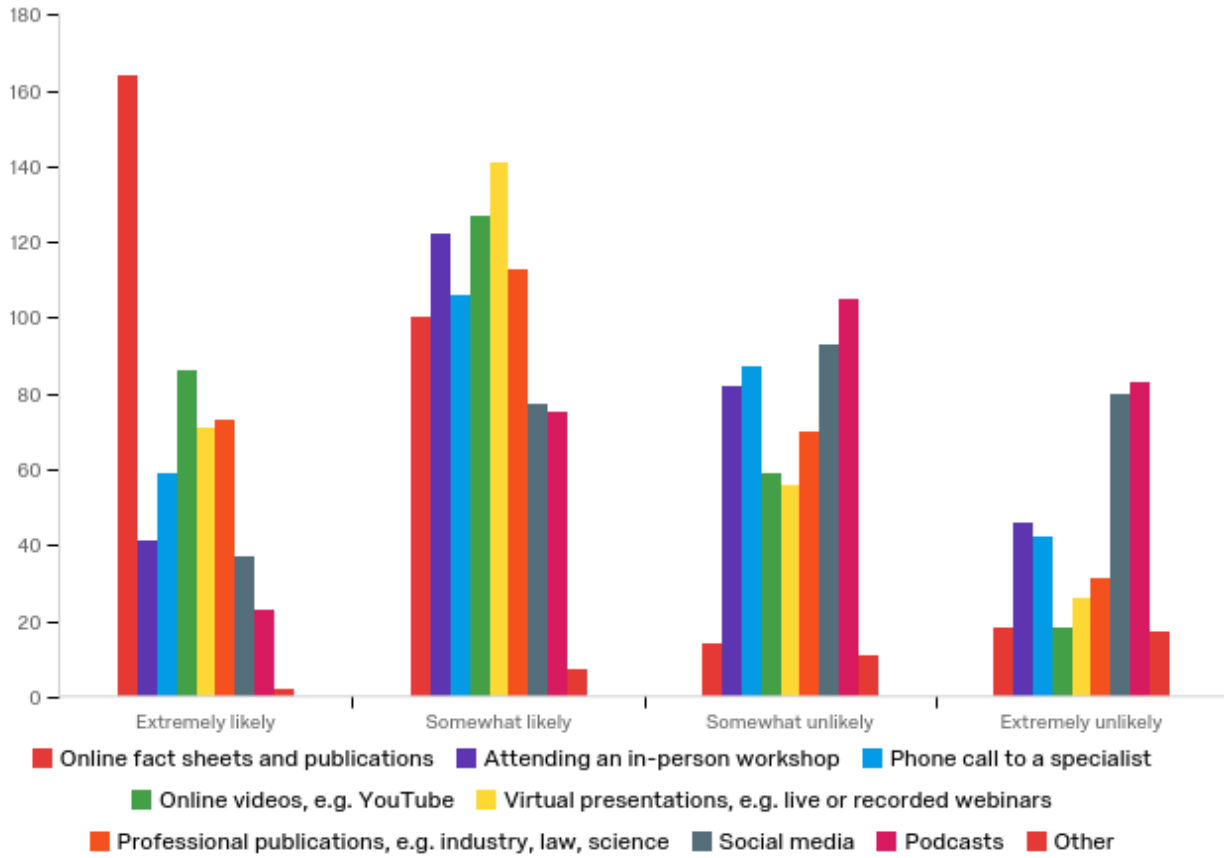
Of the Yes votes, top priorities in order from most important:

1. Nutrient management and nutrient trading (101)
2. Leasing and legal compliance (81)
3. User conflicts (74)
4. Food safety and tax laws (59)
5. Other (19)
 - a. Water quality monitoring (2)
 - b. restoration/sustainability vs harvest conflicts
 - c. How TMDL plans mitigate pollution
 - d. Impacts to public access, wild populations
 - e. regulations that help protect working water fronts
 - f. Fishery regulations
 - g. Oyster Theft
 - h. Menhaden and oysters
 - i. negative impacts on aquatic and other sea/water life and animals; enviro impacts
 - j. aquaculture beyond oysters
 - k. Species breeding and selection
 - l. my response above is in regard to food safety, particularly bioaccumulation of contaminants in fished species & dietary limits -- why confound this with "tax laws"?
 - m. Risks to aquaculture posed by climate change
 - n. ecosystem services
 - o. Fishery Management Plans, natural resource protection, environmental impact studies
 - p. Trends in species composition, changes in broader ecosystems
 - q. What is Maryland riparian law? What is MD DNR allowed to do beyond the law?

Q12: If MDSG provided resources about your topics of interest, would you use those resources in your work or for your own property?

Total count: 140
 Yes: 128 (91%)
 No: 12 (9%)

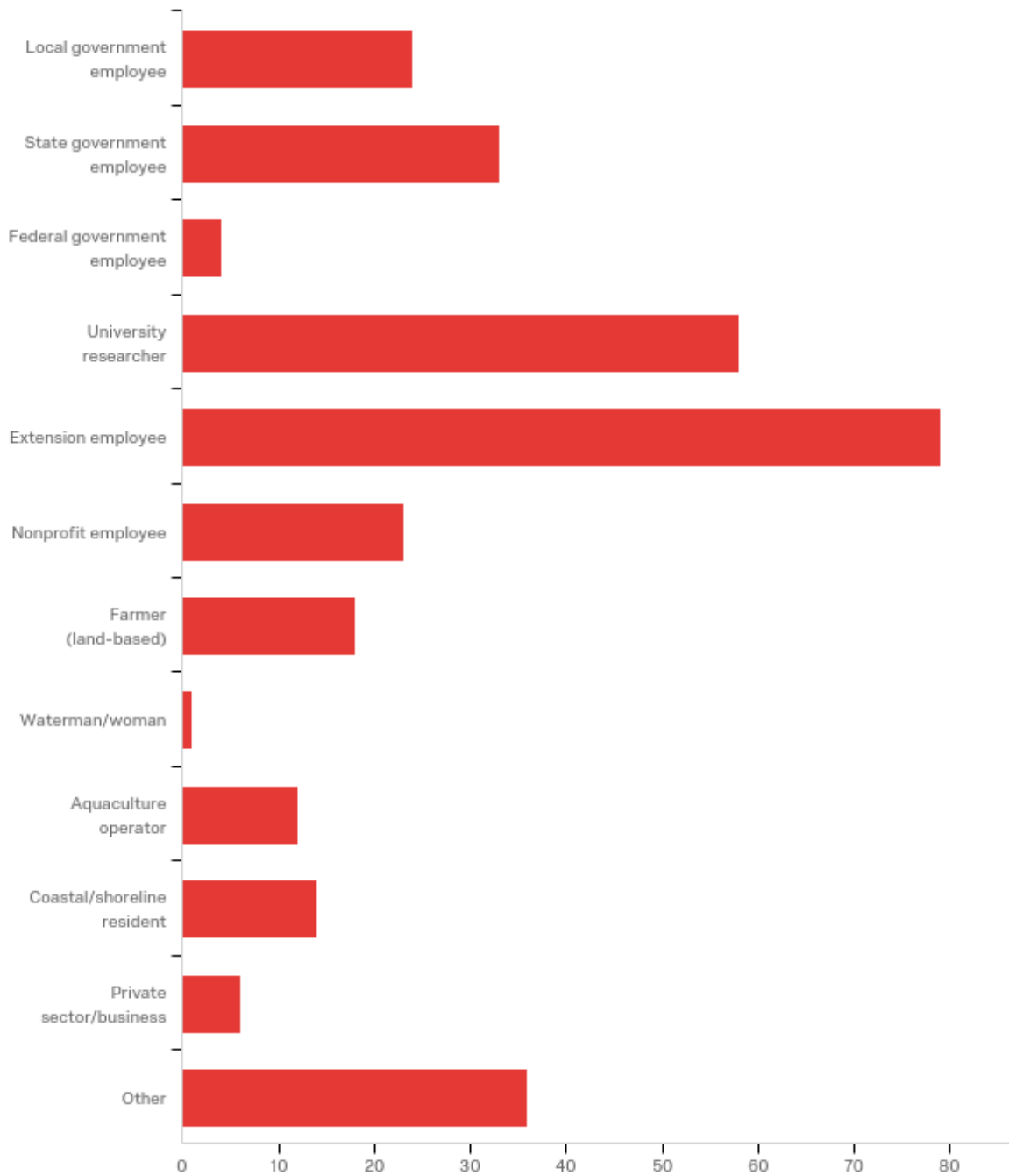
Likelihood of accessing resources by specific mechanisms:



Home zip codes entered: 296

Work zip codes entered: 295

Q7: Perspective from which you answered the survey:



Other professions:

- Local government elected official
- Potential aquaculture operator
- Legislative advocate
- Homeowner
- Self-employed vegetation management specialist
- community advocate

- Extension volunteer
- Education
- Political Subdivision of the State
- volunteer master gardener (10)
- Retired (2)
- journalist, author
- Homeowner, property with well & septic systems, and a creek crossing a corner
- Concerned citizen (2)
- Nonprofit board member and activist
- Environmental consultant - commercial RE
- University employee/staff (2)

Maryland Coastal Law and Policy Roundtable
Hosted by Maryland Sea Grant and the Agriculture Law Education Initiative

Monday, December 2, 2019
Admiral Fell Inn – Admiral’s Ballroom, Baltimore, MD

Goals:

- *Assess the need for Maryland Sea Grant to develop a law and policy education model*
- *Determine the priority coastal and land use issues for Maryland Sea Grant legal and policy education model*
- *Gather suggestions for structure of Maryland Sea Grant legal and policy education model*
- *Receive guidance on directional focus on the Phase 2 pilot for Maryland Sea Grant legal and policy efforts*

8:30 a.m. **Registration**
Breakfast and refreshments provided

9:00 a.m. **Welcome and Introduction**
Dr. Fredrika Moser, Director, Maryland Sea Grant College
Ms. Sarah Everhart, Esq., Managing Director for the Agriculture Law Education Initiative at the UM Francis King Carey School of Law

9:15 a.m. **Project and Table Introductions**
Ms. Jennifer Dindinger, Watershed Restoration Specialist, UMD Sea Grant Extension
Ms. Nicole Cook, Esq., Environmental and Agricultural Faculty Legal Specialist with the Agriculture Law Education Initiative at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore
Ms. Eva May, Science Management and Policy Intern, Maryland Sea Grant

9:45 a.m. **Overview of Existing Sea Grant-affiliated Legal and Policy Models**

- *Stephanie Showalter Otts, Esq., Director, The National Sea Grant Law Center*
- *Elizabeth Andrews, Esq., Professor of the Practice of Law, and Director, Virginia Coastal Policy Center, William & Mary Law School and Dr. Troy Hartley, Director, Virginia Sea Grant*
- *Shana Jones, Esq., Planning And Environmental Services Unit Program Manager, Carl Vinson Institute of Government, University of Georgia*

Questions and Answers

Networking break (10 minutes): *Refreshments and snacks available*

11:15 a.m. **Exploring Coastal Resource Legal Policy Priorities**

12:30 p.m. **Lunch**

1:00 p.m. **Delivery of Legal and Policy Resources**

1:45 p.m. **Break**

2:00 p.m. **Priorities of Legal Resource Needs and Identification of Funding Opportunities**

2:30 p.m. **Commitment and Next Steps**

2:45 p.m. **Concluding Remarks**

Maryland Sea Grant College and the Agriculture Law Education Initiative at the University of Maryland

MARYLAND COASTAL LAW AND POLICY ROUNDTABLE

Monday, December 2, 2019

Admiral Fell Inn, Baltimore, MD

MEETING SYNOPSIS

On Monday, December 2, invited participants filled the conference room at the Admiral Fell Inn in Baltimore, Maryland, to discuss Maryland Sea Grant (MDSG) and the Agriculture Law Education Initiative's (ALEI) efforts toward creating a legal education program focused on the needs of Maryland's coastal industries and communities. The Maryland Coastal Law and Policy Roundtable was supported by a grant to MDSG and ALEI to explore options for creating a Maryland Sea Grant legal program.



The goals for the day included:

- Discussing the rationale for developing a Maryland Sea Grant law and policy education model
- Determining mechanisms through which this model can address priority stakeholder issues
- Gathering suggestions for how this model should be structured to best suit stakeholder needs
- Receiving guidance on an appropriate emphasis for a second grant to continue to support Maryland Sea Grant's legal and policy efforts

Attendees came from across sectors, including the Maryland Attorney General's office, the Department of Natural Resources, non-profit organizations, academic institutions, and university extension programs. Throughout the morning, we heard from speakers who are working in existing Sea Grant legal programs in states outside of Maryland. They discussed the evolution of their programs, current focus areas, recent findings, and funding and administrative structure. While our guest speakers' programs were individually structured as: 1) a partnership with a law school in the form of a policy clinic, 2) a legal specialist working with Sea Grant and a policy institute at a university, and 3) a Sea Grant-based program funded through Sea Grant federal monies, all of them had some overarching similarities, including providing online resources and producing informative publications. Following these presentations, the meeting's facilitators led group discussions with the purpose of gaining ideas from the participants about creating a Sea Grant legal program in Maryland.

The participants self-selected into eight discussion groups focused on different legal issues in the broad topics of: 1) coastal management, and 2) aquaculture and fisheries. The specific topics within these broad categories were pre-determined based on responses to a Maryland Sea Grant legal needs assessment survey of over 300 individuals identified as potentially interested in environmental legal needs for the state of Maryland.

The eight priority topics were: 1) sea level rise and impact; 2) stormwater management; 3) shoreline stabilization; 4) government’s role in protecting communities; 5) nutrient management and nutrient trading; 6) [aquaculture] leasing and legal compliance; 7) user conflicts; and 8) food safety and tax laws. Within each topic area, the discussion centered on how participants would most like to receive legal information related to their priority issue, what delivery structure of legal resources was preferred, and what kind of Maryland Sea Grant and ALEI program structure might be feasible and useful.

Below is a chart outlining the five most popular ideas agreed upon by each group, in descending order.

Top Legal Resource Delivery Mechanisms	Top Legal Program Structure Ideas
Online information relating to existing resources, regulations, and partnerships	Website acting as an information hub and knowledge transfer/communications forum
Informative written materials, such as fact sheets and white papers	In-house attorney or legal specialist
Educational resources such as seminars, workshops, and webinars	Legal fellow(s), intern(s), and/or extern(s)
Point person(s) who can answer questions in a more informal setting	Partnership with a law school for creating white papers and developing an information resource for stakeholders
Case studies	Extension specialist with legal knowledge

At the end of the workshop, our facilitators aided the team in collecting commitment pledges from meeting participants, in order to garner an idea of how they wished to continue their involvement in our capacity-building process, including expanding the involved stakeholder pool for this project, aiding in exploring and applying for funding opportunities, and helping advise our team moving forward.

The input from the workshop was highly valuable both for the organizers and for the community to have the opportunity to express their interests in how best to deliver coastal and environmental legal information and education to interested Marylanders. Following this successful workshop, Maryland Sea Grant and ALEI will continue our work to explore how to build a legal resource and a legal fellowship position. This includes exploring potential funding partnerships and collaborators to help structure this program, so as to best meet the needs and ideas heard through both our needs assessment survey and our discussions at the roundtable. As we continue in this process, we will also be working to finalize a paper to be published in the National Sea Grant Law Center’s journal, which will provide a more in-depth look at our process, survey findings, and ideas for future initiatives in the state. Our team continues to be excited about expanding upon these efforts, bringing together participants to help define a path forward, and taking the next step in building a legal program to serve Maryland’s coastal communities. We are grateful to all the workshop participants who took time out of their busy schedules to have these important discussions and share their expertise with us.