

MARYLAND COAST SMART COUNCIL

Secretary Josh Kurtz, Chair
Maryland Department of Natural Resources

Agenda Coast Smart Council Quarter 3 Meeting

Aug 27, 2025 | 12:30pm - 1:30pm
Maryland Department of Natural Resources
580 Taylor Avenue, Annapolis, MD 21401
Room C-1

OR

Meeting Link

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/qgh-expq-juh>

Or dial: (US) +1 409-999-3083 PIN: 192 408 761#

I. Welcome, Introductions & Review of Agenda

12:30 - 12:35

Secretary Kurtz (DNR), will open the meeting, call roll, and review the agenda.

- Action: Member approval of May 28, 2025 Meeting Minutes via vote
- Materials: [DRAFT May 28 CSC Meeting Notes](#)

House of Representatives	Delegate Stein
DBM	Jason Wardrup
MDE	Matt Rowe - Eileen Gladd
DGS	Spyros Papadimas
MDP	Chuck Boyd
MDOT	Allison Gost
Commerce	John Papavasiliou
CAC	Erik Fisher
MDEM	Jesse Delph - Bridget Cantwell
University System of Maryland	Dr. Fernando Miralles Wilhelm
Comptroller's Office	Brooke E. Lierman - Kim Pezza
Charles County Government	Beth Groth
Blackbeard Biologic	Andrew Thaler
Stantec Inc.	Rebecca Aiken
UMD Civil and Environmental Engineering	Greg Baecher
Crisfield Government	Mayor Darlene Taylor

- Quorum
- Motion by Chuck Boyd, second by Jason Wardrup
- Meeting minutes approved

II. MPA Flood Vulnerability Presentation

12:40 - 1:10

Nathan Holliday (Anchor QEA) The Maryland Port Administration (MPA), in coordination with the Maryland Environmental Service, is updating and expanding its Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment. The goal is to understand the long-term flooding risks to MPA infrastructure from sea level rise (SLR) and storm surge. The assessment is organized into three phases:

- Phase 1 (2025) - high level engineering evaluation to determine vulnerabilities across MPA facilities.
- Phase 2 - Collect data identified in Phase 1, perform detailed coastal modeling to evaluate flooding, and develop site-specific Adaptation Plans
- Phase 3 - Implement mitigation measures identified in the Adaptation Plans to reduce the vulnerability of MPA infrastructure. This year's update details the engineering evaluation performed for Phase 1

Action: Informative talk

Materials: Slides to be presented

- Assessment through a FEMA BRIC Grant
 - Focused on MPA marine terminals and adjacent properties
 - Project team - Port of Baltimore, MES, and Anchor QEA
- Phase 1 - Vulnerability assessment
 - Identify MPA facilities and infrastructure assets potentially vulnerable to SLR flooding
 - Identify data gaps and develop recommendations
 - Provide resources to develop adaptation and strategies to inform future planning and decision making
- Project used GIS-based inundation analysis using UMCES projections, using 3 SLR projections
- Evaluated 10 MPA facilities and 8 DMMP sites
- Three SLR scenarios selected based on UMCES 2023 report
 - The selected scenarios provided a range of condition estimations
- Assessed Storm Surge and Tides for all sites
- Used 2015 LiDAR DEMS or LiDAR Airborne Surface data from MD iMap and other sources
- Quantified infrastructure assets across 10 facilities (e.g. berths, buildings, roadways, etc.) and where they fell within the projected inundated areas
- Report includes tables with the infrastructure assets and the number that fall within the different SLR scenarios
- The report includes comparisons to the CRAB boundary - ended up being comparable to the most conservative SLR scenario
- Developed Preliminary GIS web application for use by other MPA offices
- Phase 2 will explore integration with the MPA GIS Plat
- MPA facilities could potentially experience flooding due to 1% annual chance storm surge under the selected SLR scenarios
- Adaptation Strategies:
 - MPA has adopted a 3 pronged approach: Migrate/Elevate/Mitigate
 - Example of potential adaptation strategies: Install tide gate valves on outfalls, etc.
- Questions:
 - Elevation plus timing of inundation - what are your recommendations for the future?
 - Low areas may need additional considerations, due to the different types of flooding. Or consider the more extreme end of the SLR scenarios when planning.

III. Coast Smart Screening Form Discussion

1:10 - 1:25

Ryland Taylor (DNR) will deliver an update on the proposed new Coast Smart regulations.

Action: Informative update

Materials: None

- Regulations: Submitted today to the AELR
 - Mirrors the current program document and screening form -
 - It is just putting it into regulations
 - Formally adopted by December.
- Screening From:
 - Items for Future discussion:
 - Better definitions and guidance in certain categories
 - Consider adding guidance and/or check boxes as guidance throughout the questionnaire

IV. Public Comment, Updates, & Next Steps

1:25 - 1:30

No Public Comments

Next Meeting: Dec 3, 2025 12:30-1:30

32 Participants online

10 Participants in-person