



## Maryland Interagency Oyster Restoration Workgroup

### Meeting Notes

July 18, 2022 9:30 am– 12:30pm

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Phone Numbers

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### Agenda and Notes

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-Welcome, and note that this is a public meeting.

-MD monitoring report status update – making its way through the NOAA original scientific data communications process

St Mary's completion update and event discussion. St Mary's College is available as a location; DNR had been in touch w various agencies to find an October date; week of Oct 18 to 21 looks most promising; once date is set, meet w comms and oyster reps and lay out the event details; NOAA/ Bay Program video could be shown or debuted; could be at the boathouse/ patio/ covered promenade; might not need a boat component- many of the reefs are close to the boat house.

-Hatchery and spat planting update: planted 345 million in Big Five tribes; recently started Manokin plantings on seed only sites.

-Manokin ground truthing: about 65% of the way done (737/1131 samples from Fall 2021, Spring 2022 GT); looking to complete all GT by end of fall 2022.

-Elena (ORP) has been coordinating with Bay Program's Will Parsons (videographer).

-ORP spat desiccation experiment- any early results? ORP intern working on experiment to quantify the mortality of spat-on-shell on the outside of the pile on deck during transport; working on counts now.

-Tred Avon direct setting update: controls were pretty close to treatment- Distance from treatment to controls is 50-70 ft. Queen Anne County Seed and Shell committee is doing something similar; they have been in touch with Oxford Lab. Corps noted that Barren Island project might be a good location to try direct setting; off Hoopers; older work to place stone sill- needs to be improved; this project will place stone sills and offshore breakwater to prevent erosion; will dredge Honga River and use spoil to fill behind to create wetlands. Stone work is first phase; a action is submerged. Some of the water depths are 5 to 7 ft at the toe of the sill; could be summer 23 or 24 spat deployment. Poplar Island could also be a direct setting site; once cell is open water; about 100 acres; goes down to 9 ft; there are three reefs that go down 9 ft and emerge; the slope may be too steep for spat on shell - need to check; they call it the 'embayment', also the 'John Nichols embayment'; could also place along stone sills.

-Other updates

- [Bay Program's 'Chesapeake Progress' website oyster section](#) is now updated with the latest info from the 2021 Annual Update document.
- Two NOAA funding opportunities are now available: Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience Grants (no match requirement; \$1 million to \$15 million projects; proposals due Sept 6), and Coastal Habitat Restoration and Resilience Grants for Underserved Communities (no match requirement; \$75k to \$1 million projects; proposals due Sept 30). Info here: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/feature-story/two-habitat-restoration-and-coastal-resilience-funding-opportunities-open-under>
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