

# GLOUCESTER-MATHEWS GAZETTE-JOURNAL

## **VMRC approves breakwater project in lower Mathews**

by Bill Nachman - Posted on Nov 28, 2012 - 12:12 PM

The Virginia Resources Commission approved a request from the Bavon Beach and Chesapeake Beach Homeowners Associations to install four headland breakwaters adjacent to their properties situated along the Chesapeake Bay in Mathews County.

Commission spokesman John Bull said that action, taken during a meeting Nov. 19 in Newport News, allows breakwaters totaling 950 linear feet with 25,000 cubic yards of sand placed landward of the breakwaters and channelward of mean low water as beach nourishment. In addition, he said the associations were allowed to extend an existing 12-inch drainage outfall pipe 109 feet channelward adjacent to their properties.

VMRC staff recommended approval of this request with a royalty in the amount of \$8,978.15 for the encroachment of the pipe on 109 linear feet of state-owned submerged land at the rate of \$3 per linear foot and for the encroachment of the beach nourishment upon 173,023 square feet of submerged land at the rate of 5 cents per square foot.

Bull said commission staff recommended a time-of-year restriction precluding any construction activity from June 1 to Sept. 15 to minimize adverse impact on the Northeastern Beach Tiger Beetle. In addition, staff supports a requirement to develop a one-time mitigation plan for the seeding of submerged aquatic vegetation in the James River as part of ongoing SAV restoration efforts by the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Gloucester Point, and not to exceed a cost of \$10,000.

Bull said a public hearing was held on proposed amendments to establish the 2013 recreational and commercial management measures pertaining to tautog.

The commission voted unanimously to close the 2013 recreational tautog fishery from May 1-Sept. 19, Bull said, and to set a 16-inch size limit and a daily possession limit of three fish.

Also, the commission agreed to close the commercial tautog fishery in 2013 from Jan. 22-Feb. 28 and from May 1-Oct. 31.

In other matters, VMRC approved the request of Plains Marketing, L.P., to construct two new breasting dolphins at the end of an existing pier to be used for crude oil loading into marine vessels. That project request includes installation of a marine vapor combustion system, repair and/or replace existing piping and replace two operator buildings on the pier in the York River at 2201 Goodwin Neck Road in York County. Bull said VMRC staff recommended approval with an encroachment royalty in the amount of \$1,200 for the additional encroachment of the dolphins over 600 square feet of state-owned subaqueous land at a rate of \$2 per square foot.