

Virginia Saltwater Recreational Fishing Development Fund Evaluation of a Proposal for the Development of a Tangible Structure, Facility or Educational Program

Project Number: 0412-18

Date: 5/31/12

Title: R) Chincoteague Historic Bridge Fishing Pier.

The Virginia Saltwater Recreational Fishing Development Fund is to be used solely for the purpose of conserving and enhancing finfish taken by recreational anglers, enforcing laws and regulations related to natural resource conservation, improving recreational fishing opportunities, administering the Virginia Saltwater Fishing Tournament program, obtaining necessary data and conducting research for fisheries management, and creating or restoring habitat for species taken by recreational fishermen.

Code of Virginia, Section 28.2-302.3

NOTE: Please read the entire scoresheet before beginning, provide comments, and then circle () the appropriate score. Thank You.

A. Project Purpose

1. Does the project meet statutory guidelines for funding?

This is an excellent opportunity to meet the guidelines.

2. Does the project fulfill a real need and/or provide a substantial benefit to the saltwater recreational fishery?

This is the only Pier available in the area that will meet the needs of the Land-based saltwater fishermen, and is much needed.

3. Does the project provides its main, or substantial, benefits to the saltwater recreational angler?

This facility increases the opportunity of saltwater Anglers without the benefit of a boat. I suspect this facility will be a heavily used fishing facility and will benefit not only the Anglers, but the community as a whole.

B. Project Analysis

1. What are the project's strengths?

There is a significant benefit from using the existing primary structural support system already in place. This will also put a structure scheduled for abandonment and/or demolition to good use by developing an ADA compliant Pier to be used by the saltwater Angler.

2. What are the project's weaknesses?

Using the typical wood decking and rails will eventually require expensive maintenance effort and costs in the future, but is very typical. However, if longer lasting materials were used on the Pier, it would last longer with less on-going maintenance. Although the original cost of non-wood materials may exceed available funding, thought should be given to synthetic materials. This will be a very good and beneficial project.

C. Project Budget

1. Is the budget realistic and reasonable for 1) the size and type of project proposed; 2) the number of people likely to benefit; and, 3) the area benefiting from the project considering the area's number of saltwater fishermen and license sales?

- 1) The budget for this type and size of project is very reasonable.
- 2) The number of people benefiting from this facility may be "underestimated".
- 3) Besides the local Anglers benefiting from the facility, the number of visitors attracted to the area by the tourism industry, will benefit greatly due to this facility being available.

2. What is the local commitment to the project (cost sharing, future management and maintenance, in-kind commitments of personnel, etc.)?

As documented in the application, a good knowledge of managing this type of facility is proven. However, I would start planning now for the eventual replacement of the wood members of the Pier. Maintenance, repair and renovation efforts for this size facility will be very costly down the road, and should be considered and planned for as early as possible.

D. Provide an overall evaluation of the project, including a numerical ranking of the project on the "SCORE" scale provided.

I feel this is an excellent opportunity to take advantage of existing structural components that will reduce costs to provide a much needed facility for the saltwater Anglers.

SCORE (Circle One) Poor 0 1 2 3 4 Fair 5 6 7 8 9 Excellent 10