



Virginia Institute of Marine Science
Senate Finance Education Subcommittee
February 5, 2014

Virginia Institute of Marine Science

Important Attributes

- One of the Country's largest coastal marine institutes (more than 400 employees)
- Serves as a premier research powerhouse for Chesapeake Bay and beyond (over \$92 million in grant awards since FY 2009)
- Named in 32 sections of the *Code of Virginia* mandating our involvement in natural-resource use and management issues
- Partners with Industry to foster relationships that combine science and engineering as well as expedite applications of new technology to practical problems



School of Marine Science

Important Attributes

- The W&M School of Marine Science is embedded within the Virginia Institute of Marine Science
- Approx. 60 Teaching & Research Faculty and 100 Graduate Students
- Students paired with Faculty Mentors and undertake leading edge research projects with high impact
- Our students graduate debt free and virtually all obtain jobs in marine and environmental science!



Chesapeake Bay Long Standing Surveys *\$500,000*

Trawl Surveys:

- Juvenile Finfish and Blue Crab Trawl Survey, est. 1955
- Chesapeake Bay Monitoring and Assessment Program, est. 2002

Gillnet and Pound Net Surveys:

- Striped Bass Assessment and Disease Research Program, est. 1981
- American Shad Monitoring Survey, est. 1998

Longline Survey:

- Shark Abundance Survey, est. 1978

Dredge and Patent Tong Surveys:

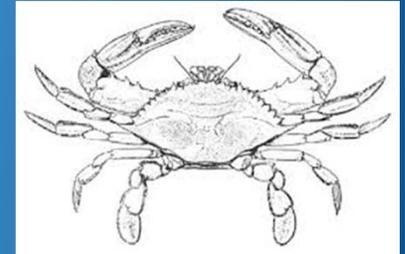
- Oyster Monitoring Program, est. 1940s
- Blue Crab Dredge Survey, est. 1990



Atlantic Croaker



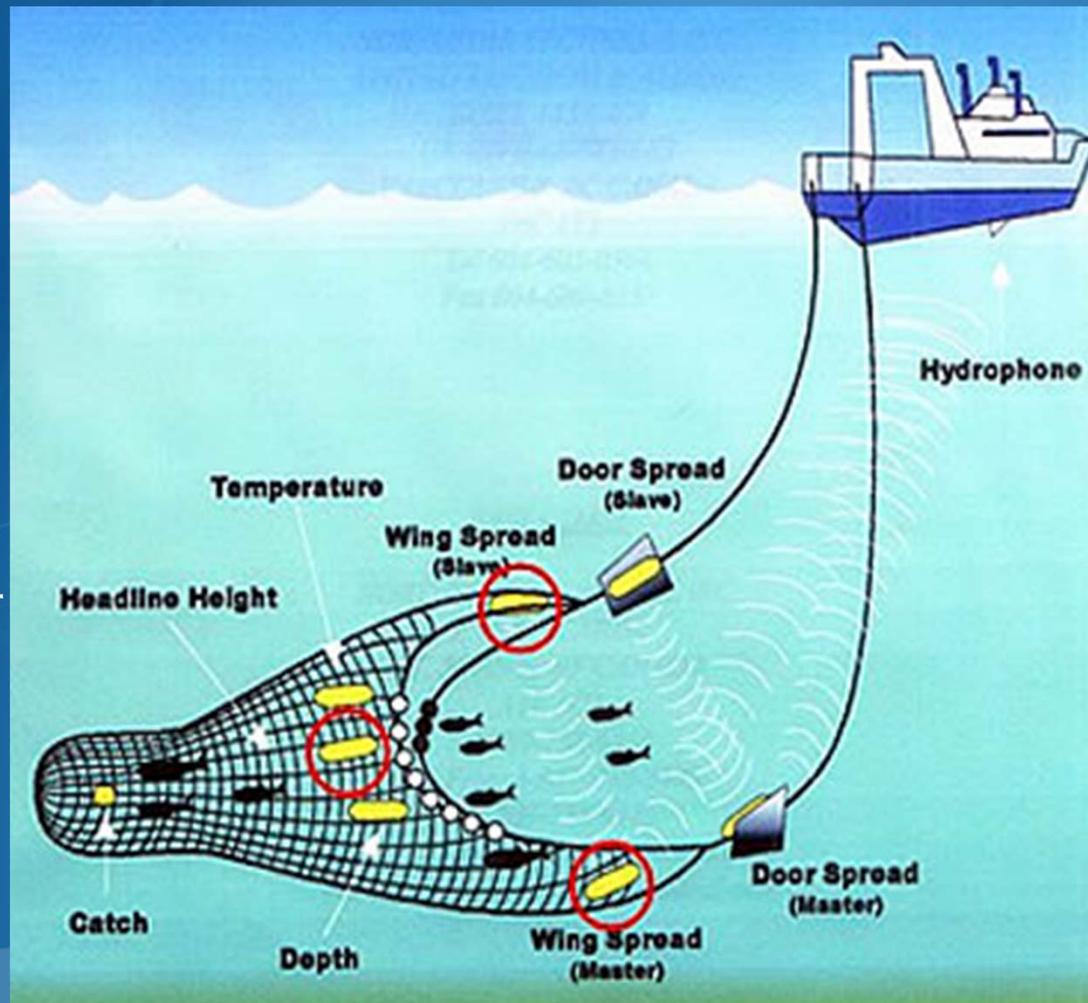
Summer Flounder



Blue Crab



Eastern Oyster

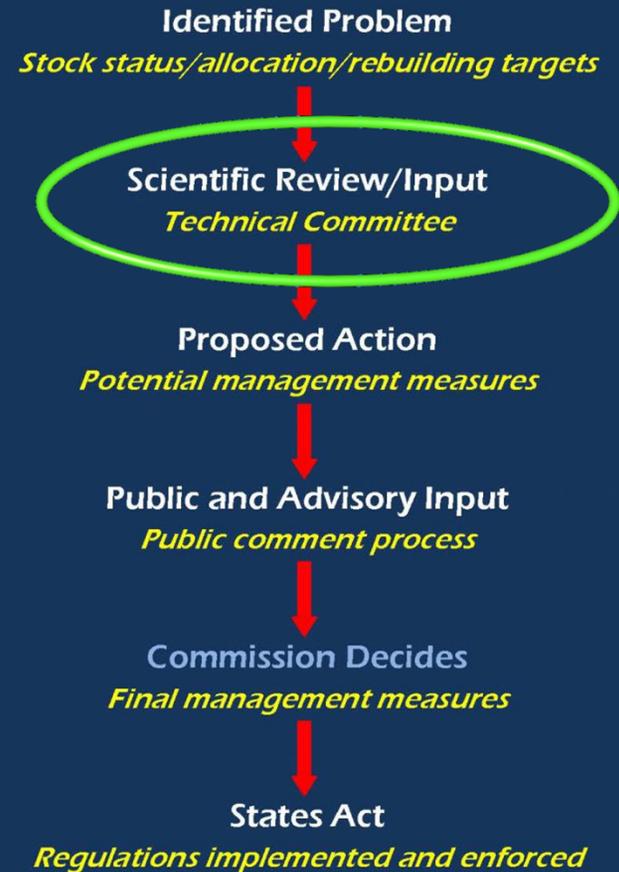


Striped Bass

Regulatory Component

- Virginia is a member of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC)
- As a member, Virginia is required to supply data in support of the development of fisheries management plans that govern catch quota allocations and other management decisions
- Failure to comply can compromise Virginia's position in securing a share of the quota, or even closure of the fisheries

ASMFC Fisheries Decision-Making Process



Research & Education Component



- Since 2008, VIMS Scientists have published over 40 manuscripts in peer-reviewed literature
- More than 20 graduate student thesis/dissertation projects have been supported by these programs; additionally, dozens of undergraduates and graduates have participated in survey activities as part of courses within their degree programs
- Many members of the general public have learned about the basics of fisheries and marine science by spending a day on the water with VIMS survey personnel

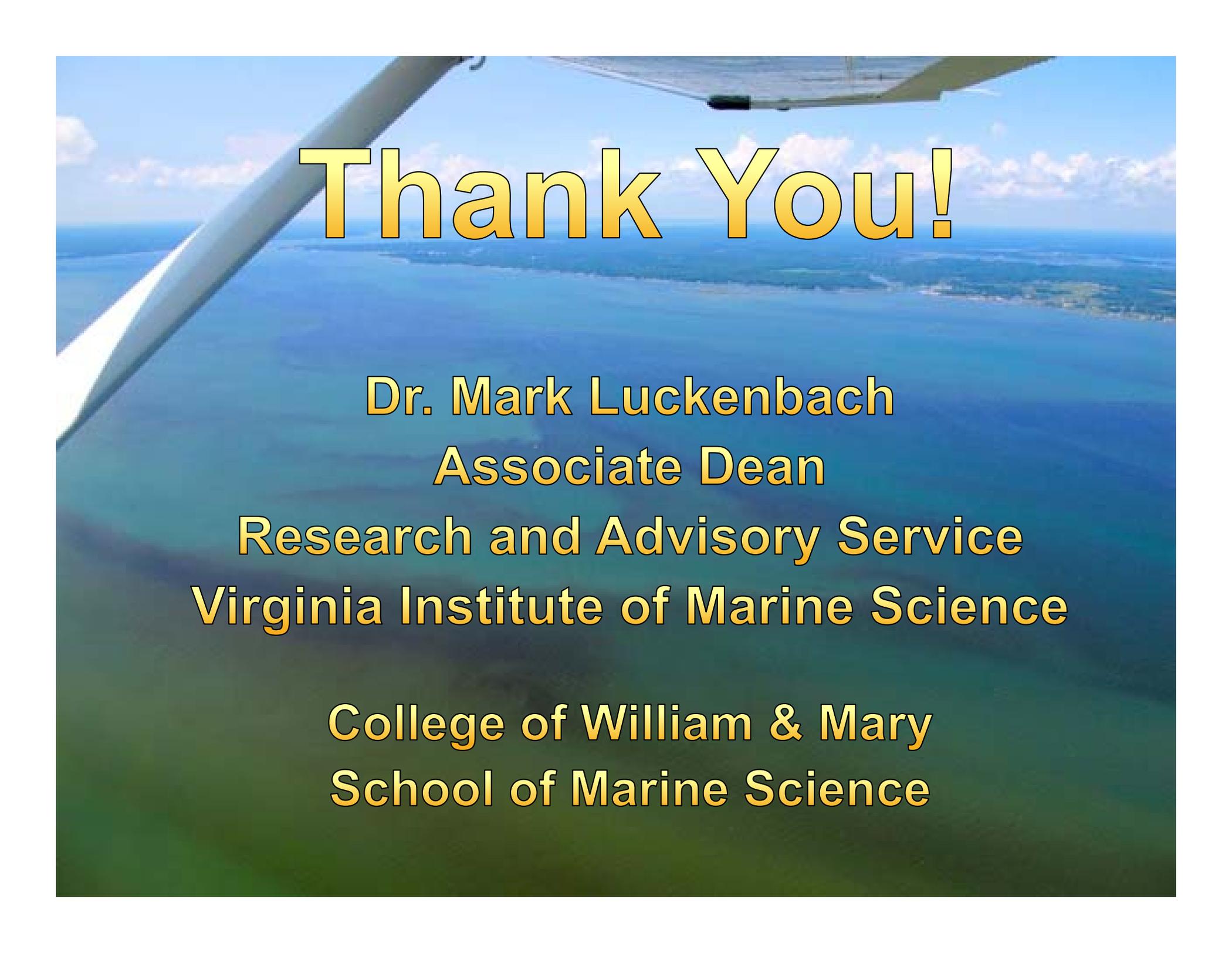


Economic Component

- Economic impacts of commercial and recreational fisheries in Virginia are estimated between \$1.8 and \$2 billion in sales, approximately \$1 billion in income, and over 13,000 jobs for the economy



- VIMS secures \$2.3 million annually in external grants and contracts to support finfish and shellfish surveys

An aerial photograph taken from an airplane window, showing a vast expanse of blue water meeting a green coastline under a clear blue sky with scattered white clouds. The wing of the airplane is visible in the upper left corner.

Thank You!

Dr. Mark Luckenbach

Associate Dean

Research and Advisory Service

Virginia Institute of Marine Science

College of William & Mary

School of Marine Science