# Peninsula Planning District Commission's Virtual Sketch Up of Overlapping Regulatory Structure within the Riparian Areas of the Middle Peninsula Coastal Zone

(Shenk Parcel- Severn River- Gloucester Virginia)
Final Report
For the Period Ending
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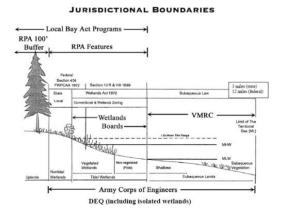


# Report on the Virtual Sketch Up of Overlapping Regulatory structure within the Riparian Areas of the Mid Pen CZ October 2007

#### **Issue Background**

Within the coastal landscape, especially within the area commonly referred to as the riparian zone, multi jurisdictional regulatory overlap exists. Many governmental bodies have jurisdictional claim to areas within the loosely defined riparian zone. Overlapping jurisdiction causes confusion with elected officials, government staff and the general public. It is widely recognized that basic static Planimetric drawings (map1) are used to illustrate jurisdiction are not very complete or effective. For this project, MPPDC staff in partnership with NT Concepts <a href="http://www.ntconcepts.com">http://www.ntconcepts.com</a> used Google Earth and Google Sketch Up to develop an interactive system and method for demonstrating in three-dimensional dynamic illustrations jurisdictional overlap (screen shot map#2) on the coastal landscape/waterscape project site (Shenk Parcel- Severn River, Gloucester County Virginia).

Map#1



Map#2 Screen shot using Google Earth and Google Sketch Up



VMRC (non wetlands) jurisdiction area

Google SketchUp is a GIS compatible product designed to give landscape views and three dimension perspectives that can have jurisdictional coverage "draped" over the landscape. The views can be rotated 360 degrees on all axes, just as Google Earth maps can be tilted and rotated to view landscape features. The value to users lies in the user's ability to illustrate three-dimensional jurisdictions coverage and the relation to issue at hand. Benefits include better informed elected officials, staff and the general public as to

where jurisdictional zones are and how regulations relate to natural features in several typical Chesapeake Bay marsh/upland areas.

As a tool, Google SketchUp is defined as: "A three-dimensional design and modeling environment that allows users to draw the outlines, or perimeters, of objects in a two-dimensional manner, similar to pencil and paper, already familiar to them. The two-dimensional, planar faces created by a user can then be pushed and pulled by editing tools within the environment to easily and intuitively model three-dimensional volumes and geometries".

#### **Project Process**

Staff from the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission including the Agency Executive Director as well as staff from the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program (Project Feasibility Team), issued a Request For Qualifications and received four qualified responses. The Feasibility Team (project product #1) reviewed RFQ responses, interviewed and selected a consulting firm. Each consulting firm proposed various technologies to meet the project goal. NT Concepts <a href="http://www.ntconcepts.com">http://www.ntconcepts.com</a> was awarded the contract and proposed to use Google Earth and Google sketch up as the preferred technology due to its effectiveness at rendering 3d images and web deployment (project product #3- selection of consulting firm).

The Feasibility Team and NT Concepts recognized that Coastal Zone Management (CZM) within Virginia is an extremely complex activity. Virginia's CZM Program includes everything from wetlands laws to public access to sustainable economic development. Virginia's network of natural resource agencies shares responsibility for implementing Virginia's coastal resources management laws and policies. Feasibility Team and NT Concept staff utilized the Coastal Policy Team (CPT) as points of contact to determine regulatory jurisdiction as it relates to each agency responsibility on the project site (Shenk Parcel). The CPT, whose members represent the Virginia CZM Program's key partners, provides a forum for discussion and resolution of cross-cutting coastal resource management issues). The CPT served to meet the grant requirement of Establising a Jurisdictional Overlap Team (project product #2). Seventeen types of jurisdiction were identified for the project site (others might exist).

Project consultants, NT Concepts <a href="http://www.ntconcepts.com">http://www.ntconcepts.com</a> utilizing Google Earth and Google Sketch up, rendered 3-Dimensional dynamic landscape and jurisdictional areas on the Shenk Parcel. Jurisdictional coverage's were provided by CPT members in accordance with agency responsibilities.

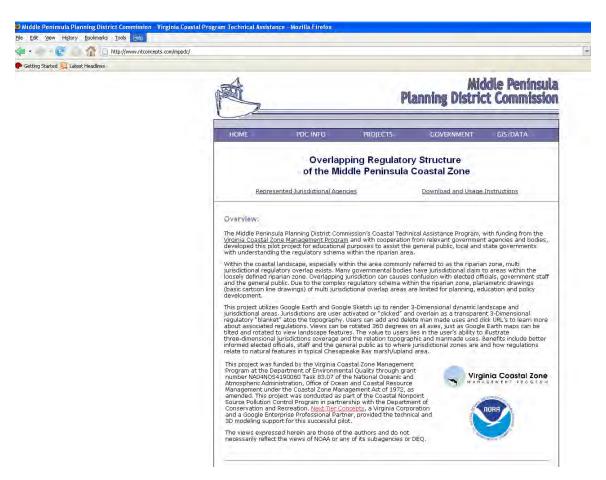
#### **Technology**

This project utilizes Google Earth and Google Sketch up to render 3-Dimensional dynamic landscape and jurisdictional areas. Jurisdictions are user activated or "clicked" and overlain as a transparent 3-Dimensional regulatory "blanket" atop the topography. Users can add and delete man made uses and click URL's to learn more about associated

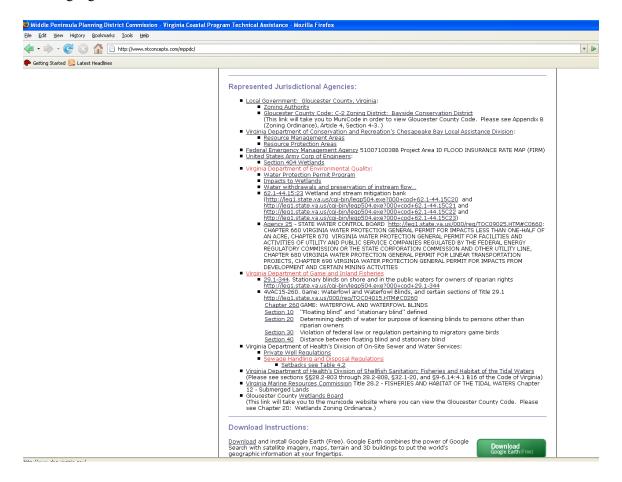
regulations. Views can be rotated 360 degrees on all axes, just as Google Earth maps can be tilted and rotated to view landscape features. The value to users lies in the user's ability to illustrate three-dimensional jurisdictions coverage and the relation topographic and manmade uses. Benefits include better informed elected officials, staff and the general public as to where jurisdictional zones are and how regulations relate to natural features in typical Chesapeake Bay marsh/upland area. The project web file is a7 megabite KMZ file executable using Google Earth.

#### **Project Status**

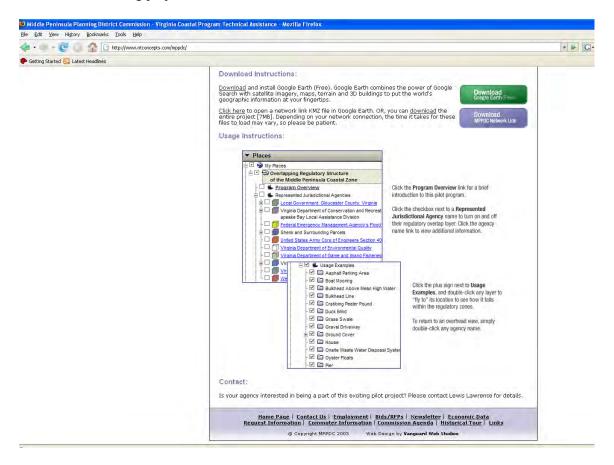
Currently, the tool resides on <a href="http://www.ntconcepts.com/mppdc/">http://www.ntconcepts.com/mppdc/</a> and will be transferred to <a href="http://www.mppdc.com">www.mppdc.com</a> by project final close out. Project product #4 described as "3D Digital Illustration and Deployment to Regulatory Entities" is described by the following screen shot directly from the project website and project tool. The tool is set for final deployment and is scheduled to be reviewed by local planners and PDC Commission in November 2007.



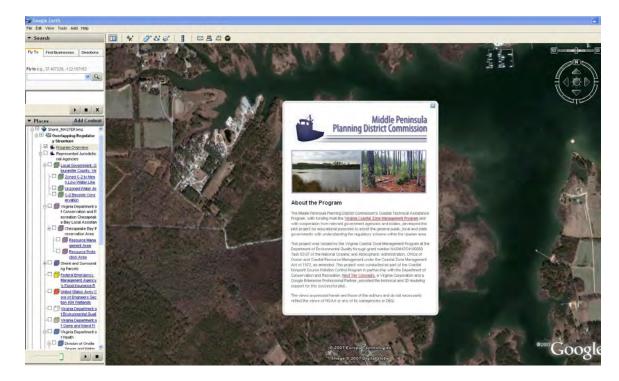
Screen Shot showing project Jurisdictional Agencies and URL links back to each agencies enabling legislation.



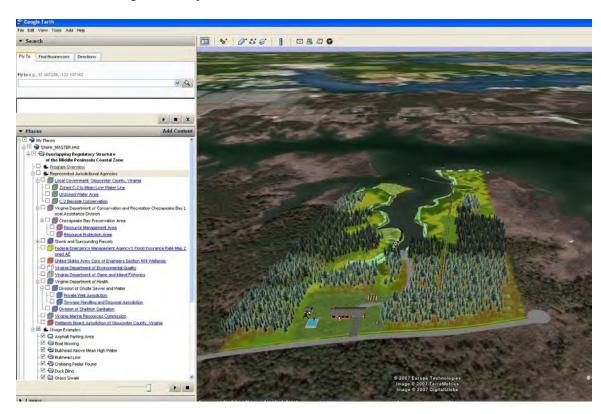
#### Screen Shot showing project down load instructions



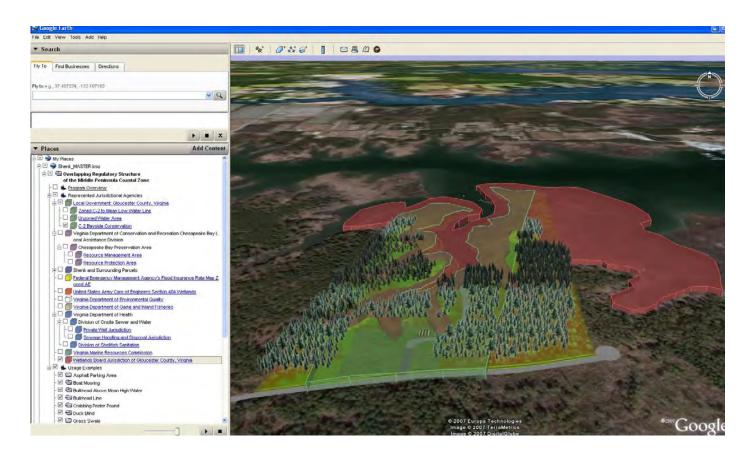
## Screen Shot showing project background information from Google earth



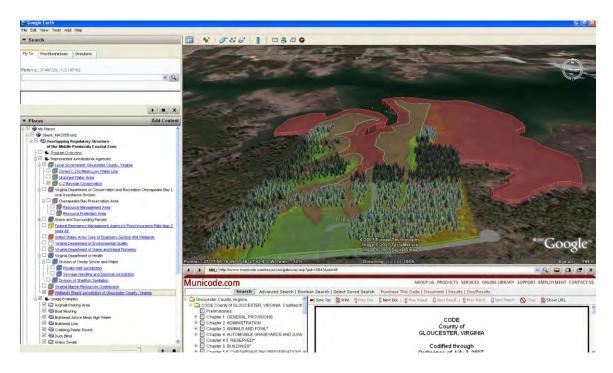
### Screen shot showing clickable jurisdictions and uses



Screen Shot showing Gloucester local zoning and Wetlands board jurisdiction overlap



Screen Shot Wetlands board jurisdiction overlap and URL web site information about wetlands board jurisdiction. In this example, wetlands board jurisdiction has been codified by Glouceseter County and a URL link takes the user to MUNI Code and launches a web window to Muni code for.



Screen shot showing Chesapeake Bay Act- Resource Protection Area (RPA) and URL link to the regulations for RPA area

