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Virginia Aquatic Resources Trust Fund Project Development

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Virginia Aquatic Resources Trust Fund History



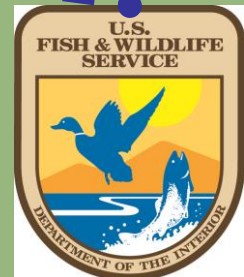
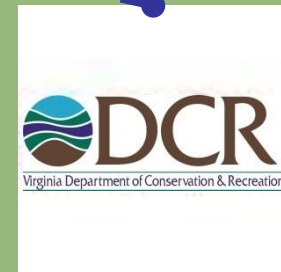
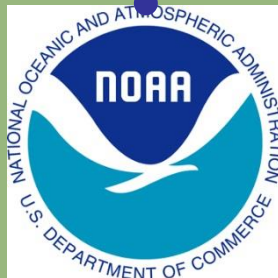
1995 – Wetland Restoration Trust Fund – wetlands only

2003 – Virginia Aquatic Resources Trust Fund – streams added

Virginia Aquatic Resources Trust Fund



VARTF – Program Instrument

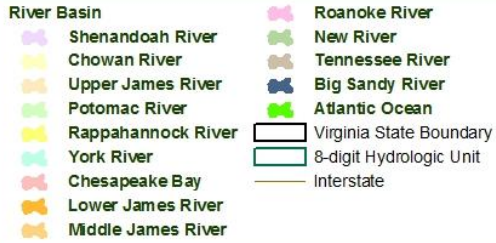


Virginia Aquatic Resources Trust Fund

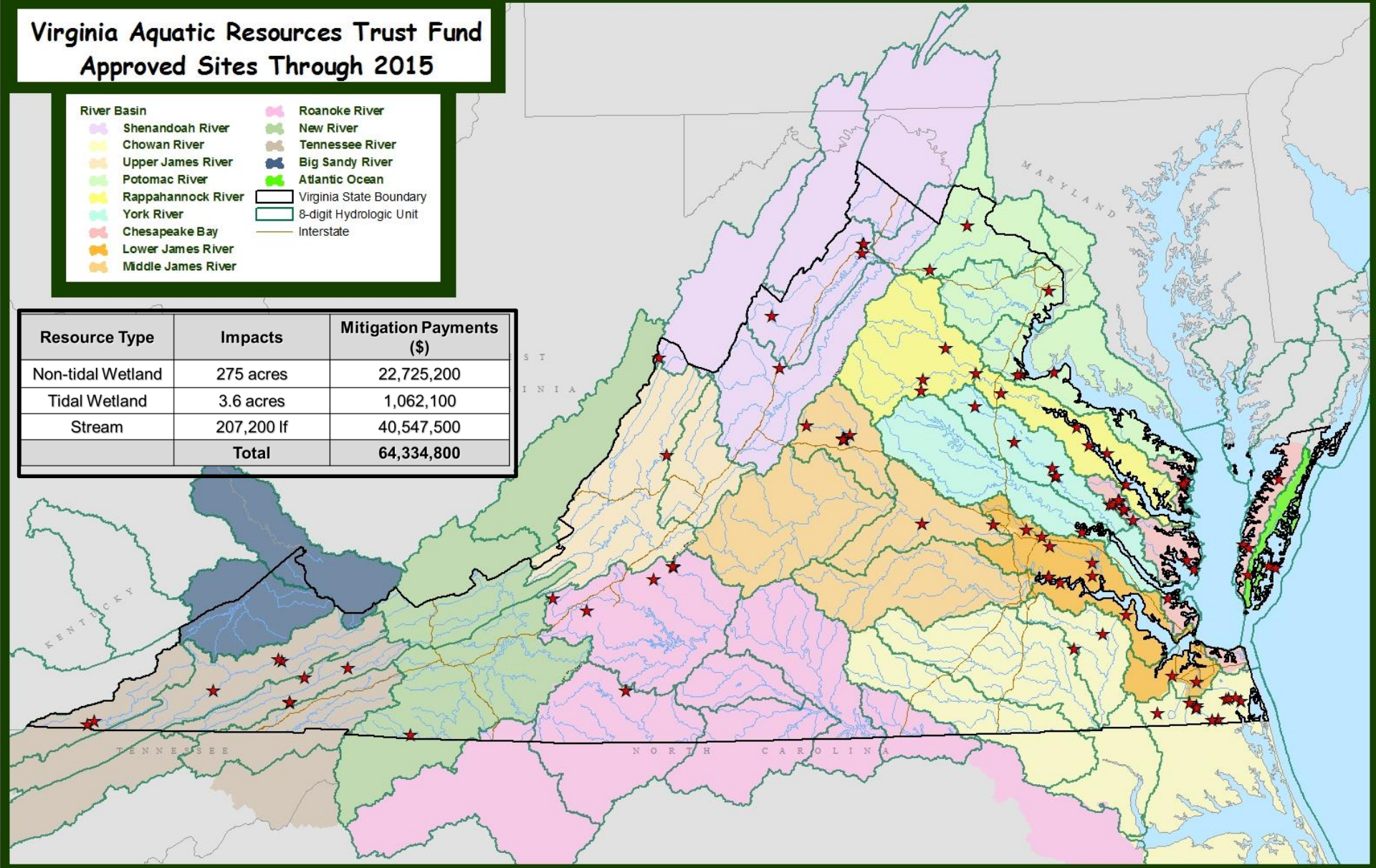
Program Stats through 2015	
Number of Approved Projects	124
Number of Staff	6.5
Funds Accrued	\$64M
Funds Allocated	\$49M

- 10 projects initiated since 2011 Instrument
- 1 SDP approved – 2015
- 4 additional SDPs submitted
- More SDPs in development

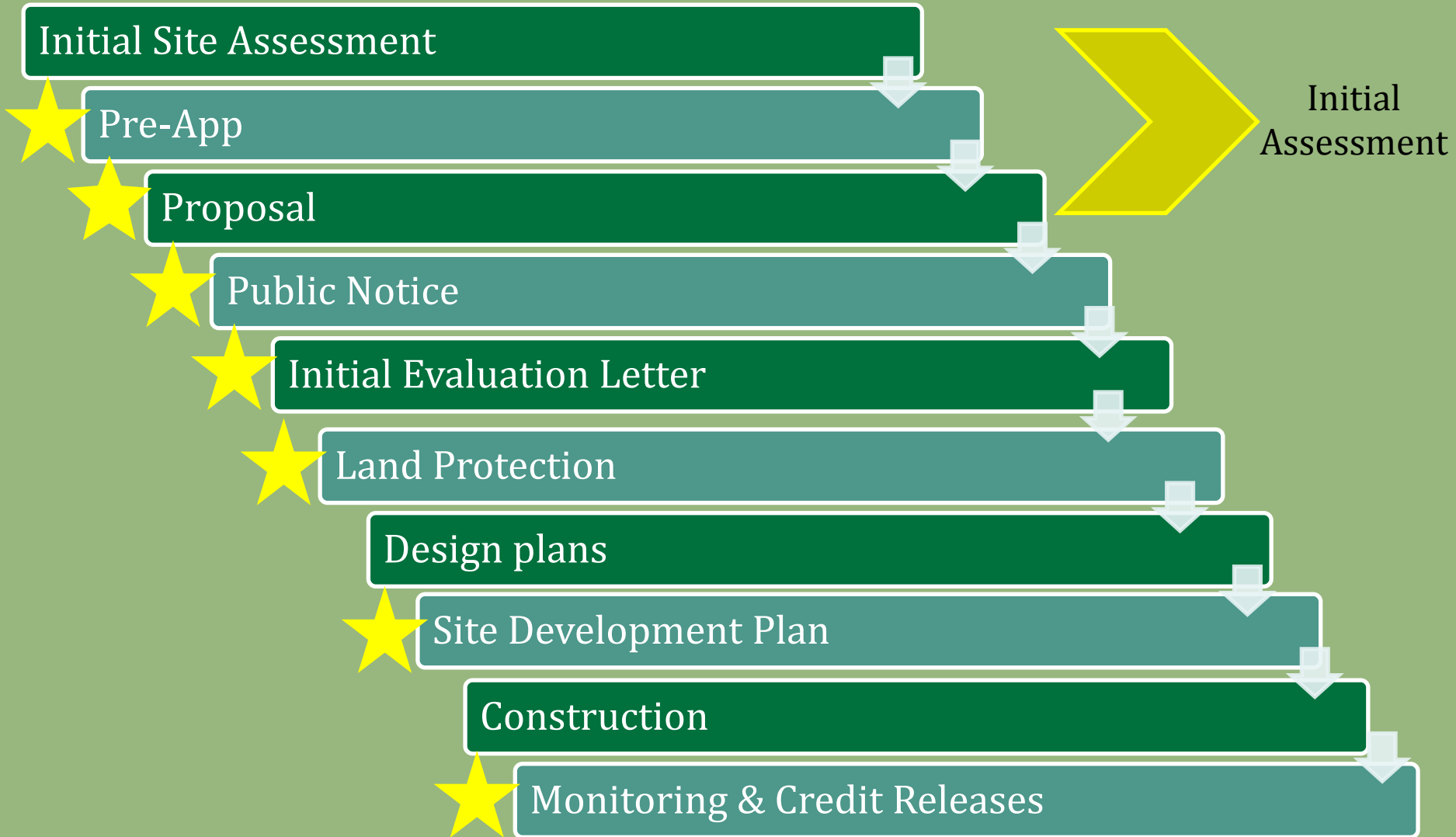
Virginia Aquatic Resources Trust Fund Approved Sites Through 2015



Resource Type	Impacts	Mitigation Payments (\$)
Non-tidal Wetland	275 acres	22,725,200
Tidal Wetland	3.6 acres	1,062,100
Stream	207,200 lf	40,547,500
Total		64,334,800



Program Operation – Project Development



Project Development – Finding Sites

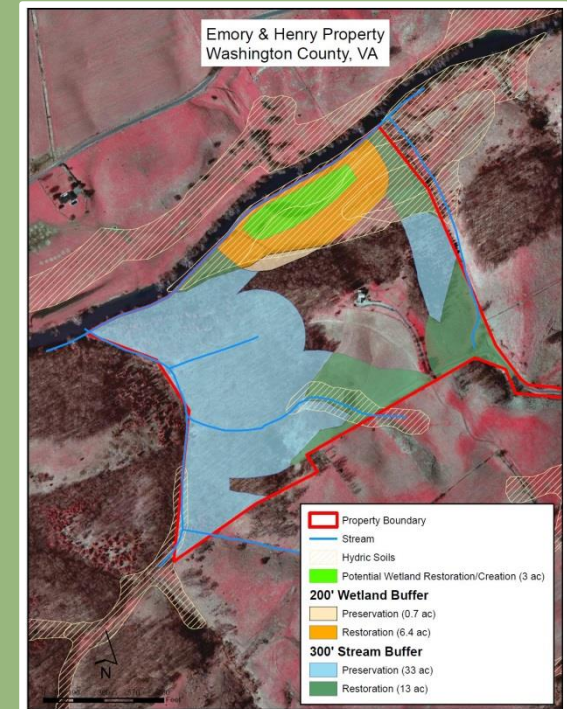
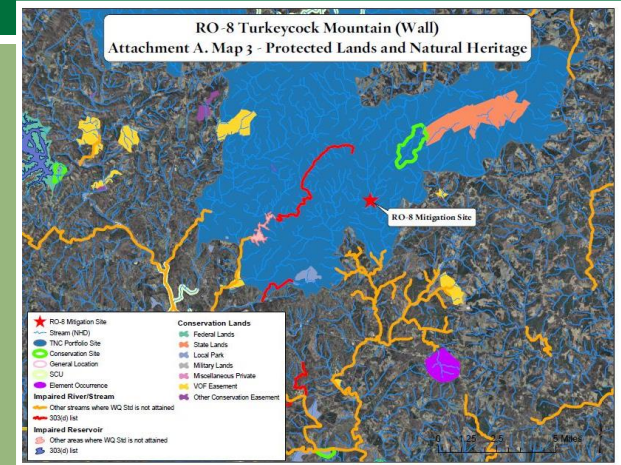
- Partners – conservation focus
- GIS Analysis – direct outreach
- RFP – solicit projects from consultants
- TNC staff – aquatic focus
- Landowner, consultant initiated



Project Development – Site Assessment

Mitigation potential

- GIS Analysis
- Compensation Planning Framework
- Program Status
- Site Visit

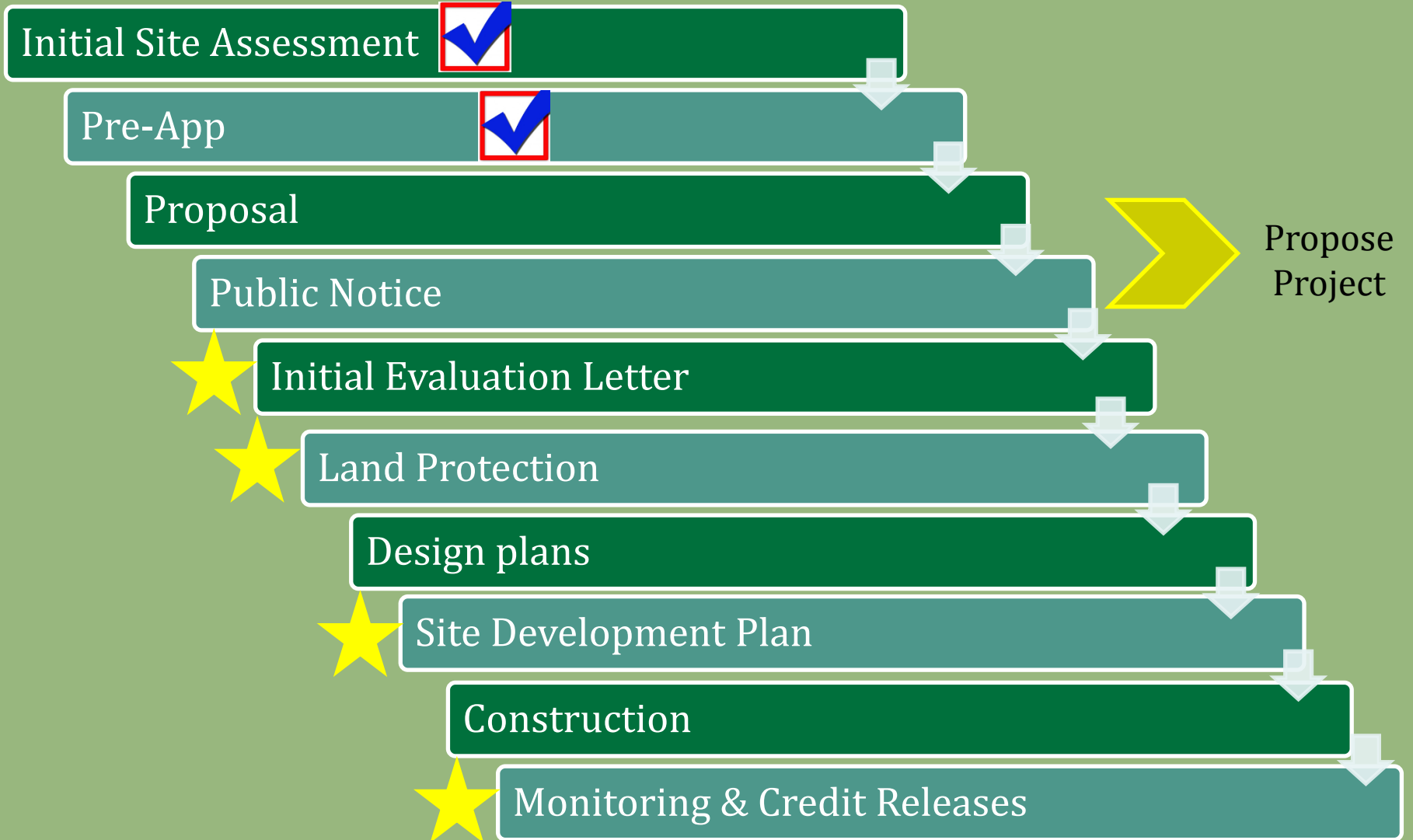


Landowner negotiations

- Protection mechanism
- Construction and buffer options
- Financial

Submit Pre-App

Program Operation – Project Development



Program Operation – Project Development

Initial Site Assessment



Pre-App



Proposal



Public Notice



Initial Evaluation Letter



Land Protection

Design plans

Site Development Plan

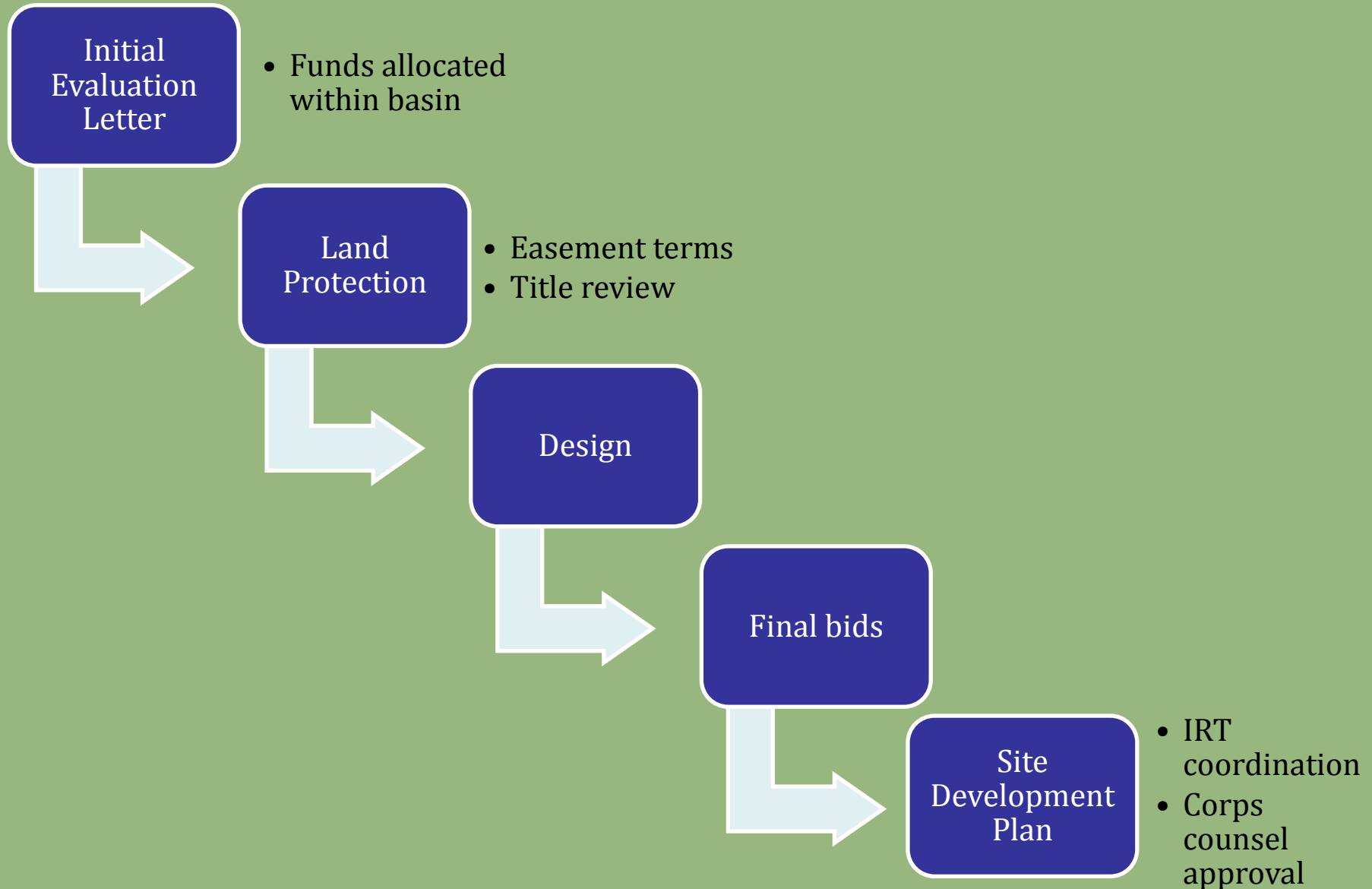
Construction

Monitoring & Credit Releases



Project Development

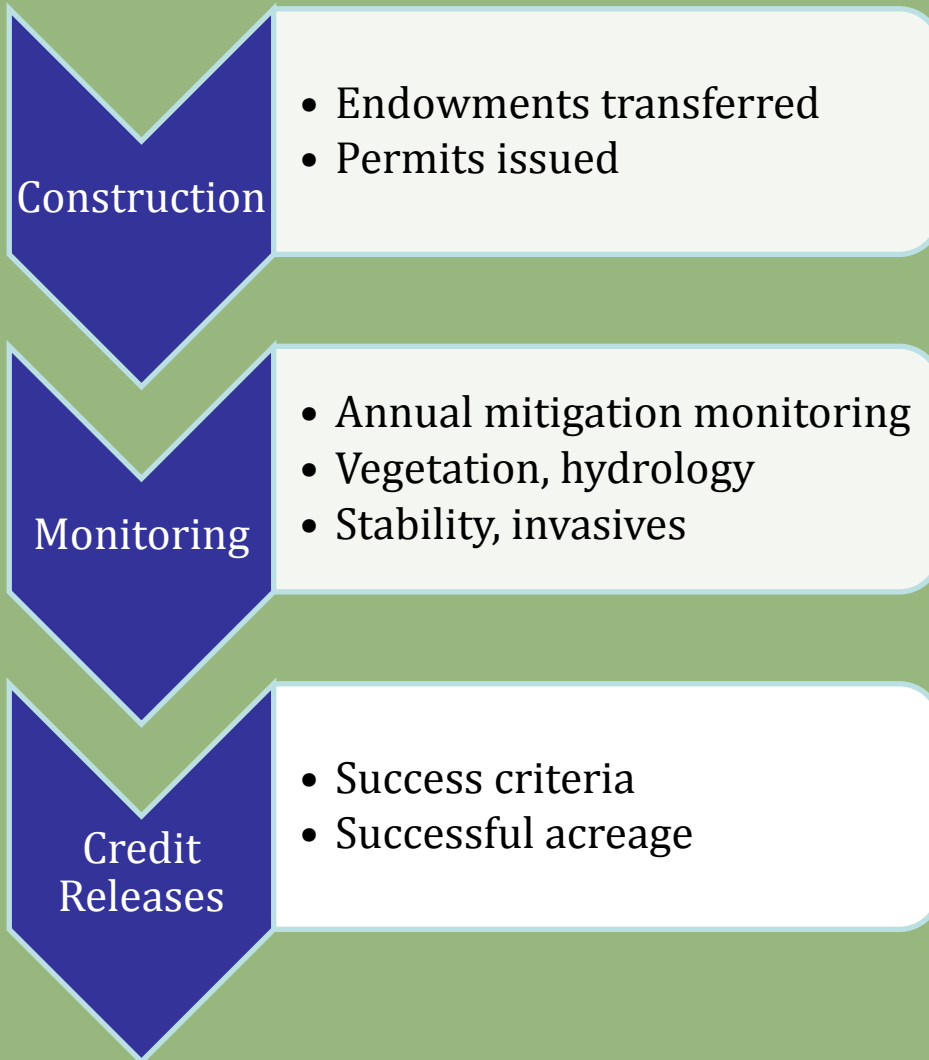
Project Development



Program Operation – Project Development



Project Implementation



Program Constraints

Lengthy
Process



I
M
P
R
O
V
E
M
E
N
T

Agency
Capacity Limits



Possible Solutions

- Audit
 - Required of our Program Instrument
 - At least every five years
 - Identified program weaknesses
- DEQ Reauthorization
 - State requirement – every five years
 - Leverage to address specific deficiencies
 - Instrument modifications
- Streamlined process
 - Identify areas where templates can be used
 - Identify areas where full IRT review is not required



FIX IT!



Virginia Aquatic Resources Trust Fund

