

Rappahannock River Basin Commission's draft description of the Rappahannock River Basin-wide Water Resources Planning Initiative, as of January 4, 2012:

*The Rappahannock River Basin Commission, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Norfolk District along with the a broad range of stakeholders will conduct a feasibility study of the Rappahannock Basin to determine which array of multipurpose measures, for water supply, navigation, flood risk management and ecosystem restoration, can evolve from a true watershed planning effort and result in feasible alternatives. The feasibility study will define the scope of a Basin-wide Water Resources Planning Initiative, including key stakeholders, that will result in integrated strategies to address the broad array of water resources issues facing the residents of the basin. The feasibility study will also define the process for carrying out the water resources planning activity so that planning resources are used efficiently.*

*The Rappahannock River Basin Water Resources Plan is intended to identify alternatives with measures related to ecosystem restoration (i.e. Chesapeake Bay TMDL WIP, local TMDL WIPs), water supply planning, navigation and flood risk management. Significant public and private resources will be invested in the coming years to address water quality issues, including Chesapeake Bay restoration. This project will provide planning information that will be used to make cost-efficient investment decisions relative to water resources utilization, protection and restoration. The larger planning effort will also identify a number of projects, including funding sources that are prioritized in a comprehensive and integrated manner. Integration of multiple projects will enable planners, funders and implementers to develop projects that work together to accomplish the intended purpose without ill effect on other projects or initiatives.*