

Electronic Study Information Page

Consent Page. Electronic Study Information

Study Title: Sea Level Rise Planning Stakeholder Network Analysis (Hampton Roads, Virginia)
Protocol #: 5647

Please read this study information sheet carefully before you decide to participate in the study.

Purpose of the research study: This study's purpose is to support the advancement of regional sea level rise planning. It will add to the body of work that focuses on sea level rise adaptation in coastal areas with a focus on stakeholder network analysis, perceived risks, the role of regional planners, academic research, and identified gaps in governance. In a comparative analysis the work will be generalized and usable for other communities working in coastal adaptation planning for flood resiliency.

What you will do in the study: You will fill out a questionnaire on Qualtrics, and no identifiable information is recorded. The research questionnaire will be conducted online through quadratics. You will first identify if you work in sea level rise planning then fill out the rest of questionnaire to the best of your knowledge.

Time required: The study will require about 30 minutes of your time.

Risks: There are no anticipated risks in this study.

Benefits: There are no direct benefits. You may find the resulting publications useful for sea level rise planning and to better understand the role of their agency in the stakeholder network. This study may help us to understand the social network and interactions of stakeholders engaging in sea level rise planning in Hampton Roads.

Confidentiality: The information that you give in the study will be anonymous. Your name and other information that could be used to identify you will not be collected or linked to the data. Because of the nature of the data, it may be possible to deduce your identity; however, there will be no attempt to do so, and your data will be reported in a way that will not identify you. Results will be reported in aggregate and will not identify individual accounts within their organizations.

Voluntary participation: Your participation in the study is completely voluntary.

Right to withdraw from the study: Right to withdraw from the study: You have the right to withdraw from the study at any time without penalty. However, once your responses are submitted there is no way for them to be deleted since this study is anonymous.

How to withdraw from the study: If you want to withdraw from the study, simply close the survey at any time before submission. There is no penalty for withdrawing. Because the data are not connected to your identity, you cannot withdraw after you submit your data.

Using Data Beyond the Study: UVA policy requires researchers to securely store study data and study records for at least 5 years after study completion. The data will not be used past this timeline.

Payment: You will receive no payment for participating in the study.

If you have questions about the study, contact the Principal Investigator:

Majid Shafiee-Jood, Ph.D.
Research Assistant Professor
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
Department of Systems and Information Engineering
University of Virginia
Email: ms2dm@virginia.edu
Phone: 434-243-8865

To obtain more information about the study, ask questions about the research procedures, express concerns about your participation, or report illness, injury or other problems, please contact:

Tonya R. Moon, Ph.D.
Chair, Institutional Review Board for the Social and Behavioral Sciences
One Morton Dr Suite 400
University of Virginia, P.O. Box 800392
Charlottesville, VA 22908-0392
Telephone: (434) 924-5999
Email: irbsbshelp@virginia.edu
Website: <https://research.virginia.edu/irb-sbs>
Website for Research Participants: <https://research.virginia.edu/research-participants>
UVA IRB-SBS # 5647

You may print a copy of this consent for your records.

Qualifying Questions for the Survey

Consent . I am 18 or older, I have read the above information, and I am willing to take part in the study.

True

False

Stakeholder Survey

Section 1. The following section regards your role within your organization

1. Which of the following statements would best characterize your involvement with Sea Level Rise issues in the Hampton Roads Area?

No involvement

A part of my work, with occasional involvement

A part of my work, with routine involvement

A major aspect of my work for less than a year

A major aspect of my work for 1-5 years

A major aspect of my work for more than 5 years

2. Please provide in the appropriate boxes below the formal name that fully identifies the primary organization you work for. If you are involved in more than one organization, please list them in order of your level of involvement.

Primary organization

Second organization

Third organization

Other

Note. The rest of the questions in this survey concern your primary organization or your perceptions and evaluations in your professional capacity at your primary organization.

3. What is your official job title?

4. Please choose the category or categories that best describe your primary organization:

Federal government

State government

Regional Government (Hampton Roads)

Local Government (Cities, Counties)

Environmental Group

Trade/Business/Industry Group

Education/Consulting/Research

Multi-stakeholder group

Multi-jurisdictional regulatory/planning entity

Political Party

Community-based organization

Agriculture

Tribal Affiliation

Other

5. How soon do you think the visible impacts of Sea Level Rise (e.g., frequent flooding and associated disruptions) will be felt in the Hampton Roads Area?

They have been felt for a while already

They are starting to be felt right now

In the next few years

In the next few decades

By 2100

Later than 2100

Section 2. The following section is regarding your perceptions of Sea Level Rise in the Hampton Roads Area

6. How concerned do you feel about the short-term and long-term consequences of Sea Level Rise in the Hampton Roads Area?

	Not Concerned	Somewhat Concerned	Concerned	Very Concerned
Short Term Consequences	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Long Term Consequences	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

7. How informed do you feel about the short-term and long-term consequences of Sea Level Rise in the Hampton Roads Area?

	Not Informed	Somewhat Informed	Well-Informed	Very Well Informed
Short Term Consequences	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Long Term Consequences	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

8. Based on your own experience, how would you qualify the level of agreement among stakeholders (including policymakers, private sector, community organizations, etc.) concerning the risks posed by Sea Level Rise in the Hampton Roads Area?

- Very High
- High
- Fairly High
- Not Very High
- Low
- Very Low

9. Please select from the list below the **three** main factors that, in your opinion, facilitate or would facilitate the incorporation of the best available science concerning Sea Level Rise into policy decisions?

- Increased stakeholders' familiarity with scientific tools (e.g. electronic simulation maps)
- Communication of scientific results or estimates in plain, accessible language
- Scientists' participation into policy meeting
- Direct relationships with scientists working on Sea Level Rise
- Increased public availability of scientific knowledge
- Creation of a single platform of available scientific information
- Update existing reports on Sea Level Rise for the whole Hampton Roads Area
- Availability of a source of translation of scientific knowledge into cost estimates
- Stakeholder agreement on the interpretation of scientific information
- Increased funding for research practice and hirings in local government

Other

10. Sea Level Rise will affect several types of infrastructure as well as communities. From the list below, please pick the **three** items or sectors that you are most worried about.

Transportation infrastructure
Water supply infrastructure
Waste and storm water infrastructure
Energy infrastructure
Ecosystems health
Coastlines
Commercial developments
Disadvantaged communities
Economic growth
Property values
Availability of housing
Public health

Other

11. If you had to decide what Sea Level Rise policies should be prioritized in the Hampton Roads Area, which **three** would you select from the list below?

Create a regional sea-level rise adaptation plan for the Hampton Roads area
Complete vulnerability assessments for all the cities and counties as soon as possible
Pass a tax measure at the local/regional/state level to address sea-level rise
Develop faster/more efficient permitting processes that incorporate considerations of sea-level rise
Create a single information platform concerning the status of projects related to sea-level rise in the Hampton Roads area, cost projections and scenario
Focus attention on the impact of sea-level rise on historically underserved communities in the area
Promote projects aimed at accommodating sea-level rise with “green” infrastructure
Promote projects with different or innovative design solutions
Support local jurisdictions to respond to sea-level rise threats as they see fit
Establish a new regional authority to address sea-level rise in the area
Strengthen existing regional authority to address sea-level rise in the area
Build a seawall, living shorelines, flood barriers, wetland restoration, and other armored solutions

Other

Section 3. The following section is regarding your organizations participation in initiatives concerning Sea Level Rise in the Hampton Roads Area.

12. In the past year, which of the following collaborative activities did you/your organization engage in as part of your work on Sea Level Rise in the Hampton Roads Area? (Please check all that apply)

Sharing information with other organizations
Engaging in joint planning with other organizations
Implementing projects jointly with another organizations
Streamlining permitting applications across permitting agencies
Training personnel from other organizations
Sharing personnel with other organizations

Carrying out research projects jointly with other organizations
Preparing grant/funding proposals jointly with other organizations
Organizing public meetings jointly with other organizations
Outreach activities regarding new Sea Level Rise-related projects jointly with other organizations
Publishing reports or other publicly available documents jointly with other organizations
Signing a formal agreement with another organization
Joining or supporting litigation or other judicial processes
Carrying out advocacy activities jointly with other organizations

Other

13. In the past year, which of the following have represented barriers to your organization's working collaboratively with other organizations in Sea Level Rise in the Hampton Roads Area? (Please check all that apply)

Scarce budgetary/staff resources
Lack of experience collaborating with other organizations in the Hampton Roads area
Distrust among stakeholders
Lack of political leadership of elected officials
Uncertainty about the future extent of sea level rise
Uncertainty about how quickly sea level rise will happen
Lack of availability of adequate scientific information
Lack of an overarching plan
Permitting obstacles
Lack of public support for policies addressing Sea Level Rise
Climate science deniers
Lack of relationships with community-based organizations

Other

14. How would you characterize the amount of resources (i.e. staff and/or funds) your organization has devoted to Sea Level Rise in the Hampton Roads Area in the past year?

Far too much
Too much
Neither too much nor too little
Slightly too little
Far too little

15. Sea-level rise issues can be addressed in different kinds of policy forums, planning processes, and initiatives (i.e. Hampton Dutch Dialogues 2021, Hampton Roads Adaptation Forum, Coastal Resilience and Adaptation Economy Consortium etc.) where stakeholders and authorities deliberate and make decisions about programs, policies, permits, projects, and funding. Please indicate up to five initiatives concerning sea level rise in the Hampton Roads area that you participate/have participated in as part of your role at your organization. You may select the examples listed above or provide your own.

Forum Example 1	<input type="text"/>
Forum Example 2	<input type="text"/>
Forum Example 3	<input type="text"/>
Forum Example 4	<input type="text"/>
Forum Example 5	<input type="text"/>

15.1. On a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 is “major negative impact” and 10 is “major positive impact”, how would you describe the impact of the forums you identified on your organization’s goals?

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
» Forum Example 1											
» Forum Example 2											
» Forum Example 3											
» Forum Example 4											
» Forum Example 5											

15.2. In regard to the forums you identified, the goals of all involved organizations are taken into account.

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
» Forum Example 1	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
» Forum Example 2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
» Forum Example 3	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
» Forum Example 4	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
» Forum Example 5	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

15.3. To what extent do you agree with the following statement: 'Participating in the forums you identified (as an individual or on behalf of an organization) has led to tangible progress in preparing for Sea Level Rise'?

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Don't Know
» Forum Example 1	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
» Forum Example 2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
» Forum Example 3	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
» Forum Example 4	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
» Forum Example 5	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

15.4. On a scale from 0 to 10, where 0 is “very unfair” and 10 is “very fair”, how fair would you say that the process of reaching decisions in the forums you identified was for all

stakeholders?

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

» Forum Example 1

» Forum Example 2

» Forum Example 3

» Forum Example 4

» Forum Example 5

15.5. Which of the following statements best characterize the decision-making processes from the forums you identified?

» Forum Example 1

For most decisions in this initiative, most groups can benefit as long as they can develop a common policy.

☐

Although most groups can benefit from most decisions, there is conflict over who will benefit the most.

☐

For most decisions, one group's gain involves another group's loss.

☐

Don't know

☐

15.6. From the list below, indicate the barriers to cooperation in the following forum you identified: $\{q://QID25/ChoiceTextEntryValue/1\}$. (check all that apply)

Participants didn't attend meetings often enough

Participants did not share common views

Participants were not trustworthy

The time demands were too high

The process was controlled by a few dominant stakeholders

The initiative lacks authority to produce binding decisions

The procedures were confusing

There is too much scientific uncertainty

Lack of resources

There were no identifiable barriers

Other

15.6. From the list below, indicate the barriers to cooperation in the following forum you identified: $\{q://QID25/ChoiceTextEntryValue/2\}$. (check all that apply)

Participants didn't attend meetings often enough

Participants did not share common views

Participants were not trustworthy

The time demands were too high

The process was controlled by a few dominant stakeholders
The initiative lacks authority to produce binding decisions
The procedures were confusing
There is too much scientific uncertainty
Lack of resources
There were no identifiable barriers

Other

15.6. From the list below, indicate the barriers to cooperation in the following forum you identified: \${q://QID25/ChoiceTextEntryValue/3}. (check all that apply)

Participants didn't attend meetings often enough
Participants did not share common views
Participants were not trustworthy
The time demands were too high
The process was controlled by a few dominant stakeholders
The initiative lacks authority to produce binding decisions
The procedures were confusing
There is too much scientific uncertainty
Lack of resources
There were no identifiable barriers

Other

15.6. From the list below, indicate the barriers to cooperation in the following forum you identified: \${q://QID25/ChoiceTextEntryValue/4}. (check all that apply)

Participants didn't attend meetings often enough
Participants did not share common views
Participants were not trustworthy
The time demands were too high
The process was controlled by a few dominant stakeholders
The initiative lacks authority to produce binding decisions
The procedures were confusing
There is too much scientific uncertainty
Lack of resources
There were no identifiable barriers

Other

15.6. From the list below, indicate the barriers to cooperation in the following forum you identified: \${q://QID25/ChoiceTextEntryValue/5}. (check all that apply)

Participants didn't attend meetings often enough
Participants did not share common views
Participants were not trustworthy
The time demands were too high

The process was controlled by a few dominant stakeholders

The initiative lacks authority to produce binding decisions

The procedures were confusing

There is too much scientific uncertainty

Lack of resources

There were no identifiable barriers

Other

Section 4. The following section is regarding your organization's relations to other organizations working on Sea Level Rise

16. Please list the organizations that you have collaborated most closely with in the context of sea-level rise planning during the past year for each category below (separate with commas).

Federal Governmental Agencies

State Governmental Agencies

Local/Regional Governmental Agencies

Non-Governmental Stakeholders
(including research institutions, citizen groups, private actors, and any other relevant stakeholder)

17. When choosing organizations to work with, which of the following factors do you consider important (please check all that apply)?

They have information that my organization needs to conduct its work

They provide my organization with financial resources

They help my organization reach a broader network

They do similar work as my organization

Their work complements the work that we do in my organization

They have authority to make policy decisions

They help my organization conduct advocacy

They are reputable organizations

Politically aligned

They are involved in projects that affect my organization's interests

Other

18. Are there organizations that you would like to collaborate with, but do not at present? If yes, please list them here (separate by a comma).

Thank you!. If you have any questions about the study, please contact the Principal Investigator, Majid Shafiee-Jood:

Majid Shafiee-Jood, Ph.D.
University of Virginia
Email: ms2dm@virginia.edu
Phone: 434-243-8865
Cell: 217-417-1076

