Name: Kirk J. Havens

STAC Member Since: July 2004

Title: Assistant Director / Director

Department: Center for Coastal Resources Management / Coastal Watersheds Program

Organization: Virginia Institute of Marine Science, College of William & Mary

Education: PhD Environmental Science and Public Policy, George Mason University (1996)
MS Biological Oceanography, Old Dominion University (1987)
BS Biology, Old Dominion University (1981)

Primary Focus Area: Watershed dynamics, wetland ecology, public policy, resource management, adaptive management.

Secondary Focus Area(s): Public trust law, sampling methodologies, public education, environmental advisory service.

Career Experiences: I am the Assistant Director for the Center for Coastal Resources Management at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, College of William and Mary, and Director of the Coastal Watersheds Program. My research has spanned topics as diverse as hormonal activity in blue crabs to tracking black bears and panthers using helicopters and thermal imaging equipment. I was featured in the French film documentary "In the Wild with Stephon Peyron" and am host of the television public service program "Chesapeake Bay Watch with Dr. Kirk Havens" http://www.vims.edu/bayinfo/baywatch/index.php and "A Healthy Bay for Healthy Kids – Cooking with Virginia's First Lady" program http://www.vims.edu/newsandevents/topstories/healthybay_healthykids.php.

I am presently working on projects involving invasive plant species and indicators of aquatic and wetland health for the Mid Atlantic region of the United States, developing the methodology for the Commonwealth of Virginia's wetland condition assessment, and investigating the impacts of derelict blue crab pots and lobster pots. My research interests include ecology, natural resource public policy, and environmental law. I am presently working with the College of William & Mary School of Law on the development of a Coastal Policy Law Clinic.

I am the author of numerous scientific papers involving wetlands, marshes and ecological systems. I am a Virginia Gubernatorial appointee to the Chesapeake Bay Program's Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee where I serve as the Vice Chair/Chair-elect.

I am an avid canoeist and serve as the immediate past President for the 50,000 member American Canoe Association (established in 1880), as well as on the Board of Directors of the Peninsulas Emergency Medical Services Council and Chair of the county Wetlands Board. I live in rural King and Queen County with my wife, Karla, and our 9 year old son Kade.