

Introduction to the Resilient Protection Frameworks: Incentivizing Action Plan Project

What is the Resilient Protection Frameworks Project?

Maryland's Lower Eastern Shore – where more than 75% of the state's tidal wetlands remain – is incredibly low-lying and vulnerable to the effects of sea-level rise. By 2050, sea-levels are projected to increase by 1 foot, resulting in a 50% loss of high marsh on the Lower Eastern Shore. Landowners are currently facing impacts, which threaten current land uses as well as broader culture and economy of Maryland's Eastern Shore. [The Nature Conservancy \(TNC\)](#) has designed the Resilient Protection Frameworks (RPF) project to develop the tools necessary for creating, incentivizing, and implementing marsh protection, restoration, and management techniques across Maryland while preserving community cultural and financial interests. The project will start with a pilot in Dorchester County, MD.

Project Approach

The RPF project will facilitate the healthy migration of Maryland's tidal marshes while preserving landowner's cultural and financial interests. The frameworks will be developed through three workgroups: Coastal Resilience Easement, Coastal Resilience Management Plan, and **Incentivizing Action Plan**. The frameworks will also include a community input component to gain feedback from landowners, operators, and members of the public on the work products being developed by the workgroups. Project contributors will help outline the how's of resilient land protection, management, and financing to ensure marshes will have space to migrate and community needs are addressed.

Incentivizing Action Plan (IAP)

The IAP portion of the RPF project, led by [Throwe Environmental LLC](#), will provide strategic direction on sustainable financing structures to support landowners in developing and implementing Coastal Resilience Easements and Management Plans. Throwe's work on the IAP will cover four tasks:

1. Conducting an extensive **literature review** of relevant plans, reports, and studies related to incentivizing marsh migration through coastal resilience easements.
2. Convening an **IAP Advisory Committee** every 6 weeks to facilitate discussions and share preliminary findings with relevant topic experts.
3. Hosting a series of **national charrettes** with guest speakers to discuss innovative approaches and incentives to facilitate marsh migration in areas experiencing sea level rise impacts.
4. Developing a written **Incentivizing Action Plan** with actionable strategies to support landowner and marsh resilience through the use of financial incentives.

About Throwe Environmental

[Throwe Environmental](#) is a Rhode Island-based consultancy with unparalleled experience addressing sustainable funding, financing, and investment issues nationally, and across the Mid-Atlantic specifically. **To learn more, email Kyle Gray (kyle@throwe-environmental.com).**

