

Collaborative Solutions for Hound-Hunters and Private Landowners

STATUS UPDATE



CONSERVE. CONNECT. PROTECT.

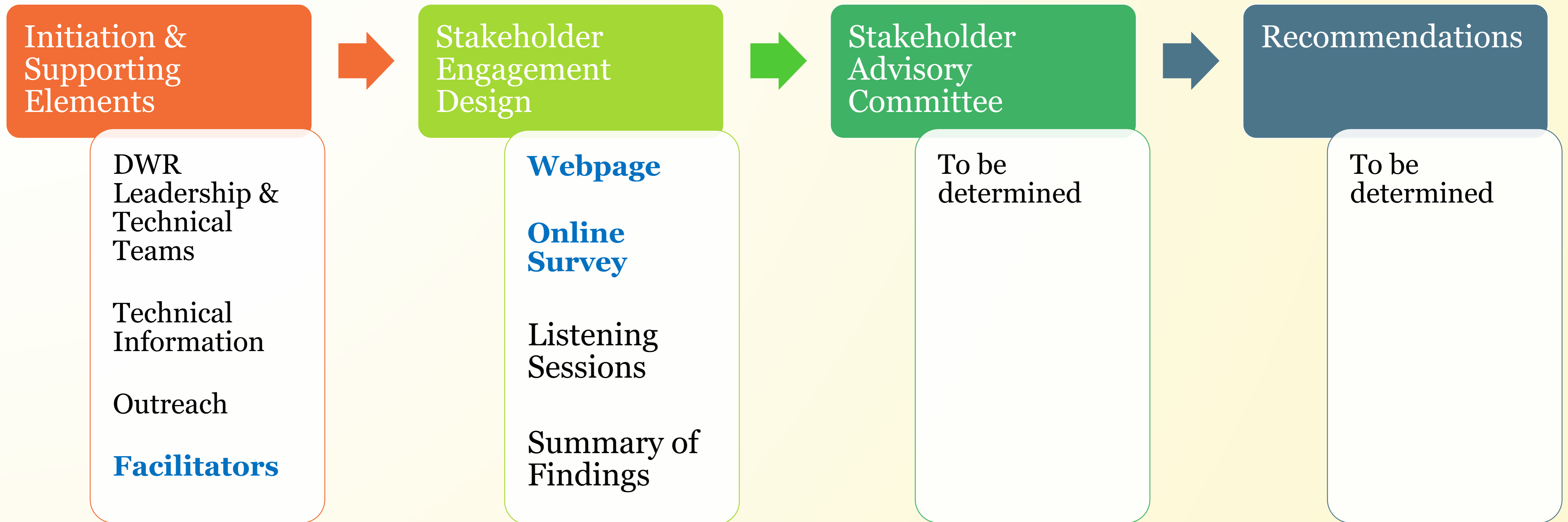
25 MAY 2023

Big Picture

- **The Problem:** Ongoing issues between landowners and hound-hunters concerning the presence of hunting hounds on private lands
- **Approach:** DWR will convene a Stakeholder Advisory Committee focused on the collaborative identification of solutions
- **Goal:** Reduce conflicts between people who hunt for deer or bear with hounds and private landowners who do not want hounds on their property



Stakeholder Engagement Process





INSTITUTE *for* ENGAGEMENT & NEGOTIATION

Shaping Our World Together

The Institute for Engagement & Negotiation (IEN) is a nationally recognized leader in fostering collaborative change across a broad range of environmental, social and economic issues.



“Our experience has shown that using collaborative processes can lead to fairer and more creative, inclusive, and effective solutions to public issues.”



Examples of IEN's Work

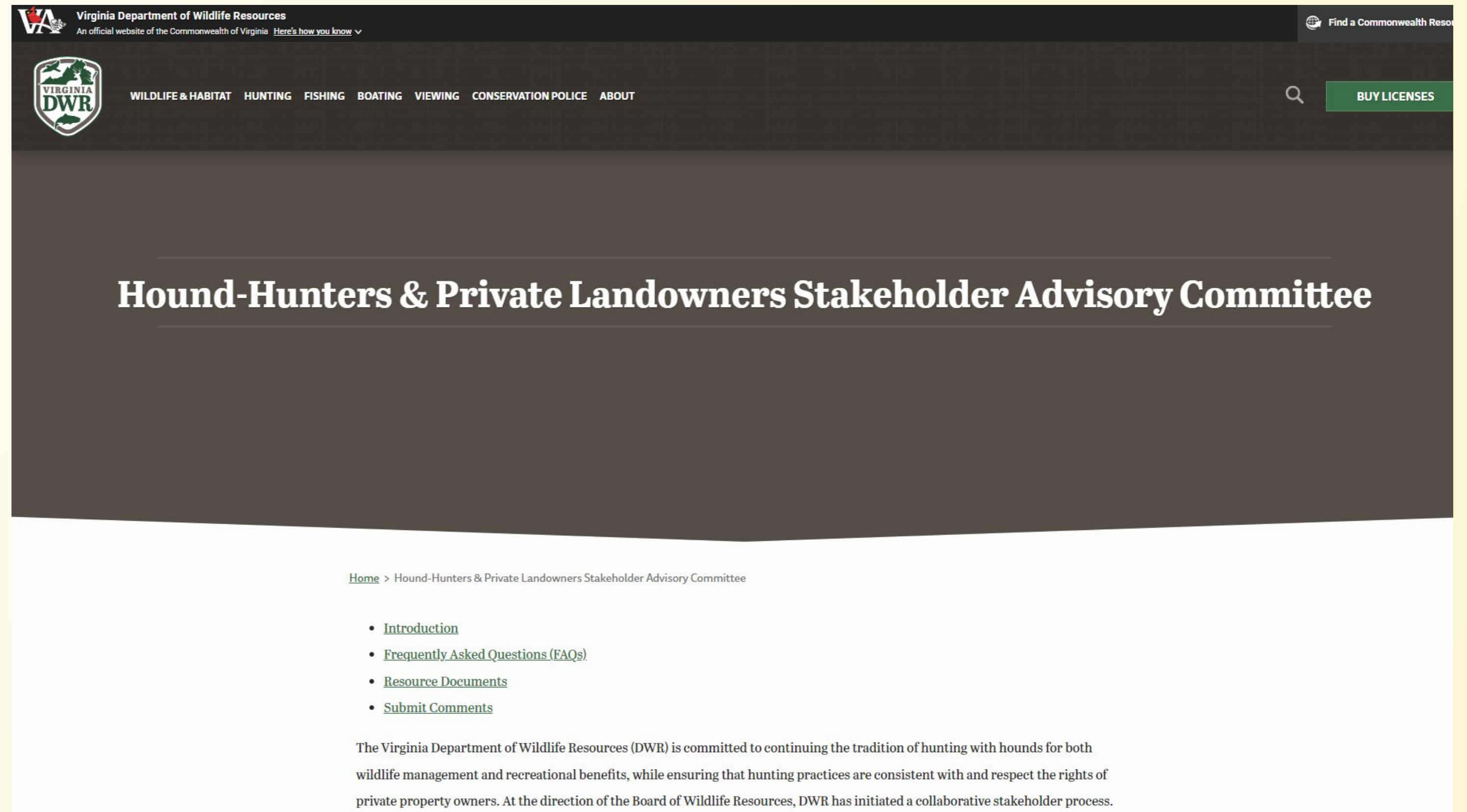
- **Department of Forestry Trees Conservation Legislative Study**
 - Navigating contentious topics to engage stakeholders in developing consensus-based recommendations
- **Lower Chickahominy Watershed Project**
 - Engaging local governments and Tribes to pursue natural resources conservation and economic development opportunities
- **Clinch River Valley Initiative (CRVI)**
 - Engaging stakeholders in a consensus building project to promote natural resources and economic development opportunities in the region
- **Alexandria Stream Health Improvement Projects**
 - Facilitating extensive community engagement and the development of consensus-based recommendations for the City Council
- **Department of Environmental Quality Solar Stakeholder Legislative Study**
 - Facilitating a Regulatory Advisory Panel of over 90 stakeholders to develop consensus-based recommendations



Informational DWR Webpage

<https://dwr.virginia.gov/hunters-landowners-sac>

- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- Resource Documents
- Email form to submit comments



The screenshot shows the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) website. The header includes the DWR logo, navigation links for Wildlife & Habitat, Hunting, Fishing, Boating, Viewing, Conservation Police, and About, a search icon, and a 'BUY LICENSES' button. The main content area features the title 'Hound-Hunters & Private Landowners Stakeholder Advisory Committee'. Below the title, there is a breadcrumb trail: 'Home > Hound-Hunters & Private Landowners Stakeholder Advisory Committee'. A list of links is provided: 'Introduction', 'Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)', 'Resource Documents', and 'Submit Comments'. A paragraph of text follows, stating: 'The Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) is committed to continuing the tradition of hunting with hounds for both wildlife management and recreational benefits, while ensuring that hunting practices are consistent with and respect the rights of private property owners. At the direction of the Board of Wildlife Resources, DWR has initiated a collaborative stakeholder process.'



Survey

- Gather input to inform the Stakeholder Advisory Committee
- Broadening the number of people involved in this process
- Survey available in **early June** – Open for ~2 weeks
 - IEN will directly notify interested stakeholder groups and individuals
 - DWR will share survey opportunity through our website, social media channels, and public comment list
 - Online link to survey will be available here in early June:

<https://dwr.virginia.gov/hunters-landowners-sac>



Timeline

- *Now*: Informational webpage available on DWR website
- *Early-Mid June*: Online survey administered by IEN
- *Late June*: Listening sessions (individual interviews)
- *Early-Mid July*: Notification of Stakeholder Advisory Committee members
- *Mid July*: Summary of findings (from survey & listening sessions)
- *Early August*: Stakeholder Advisory Committee – 1st Meeting
- *December*: Tentative target for Committee's recommendations



Questions?

Public Inquiries

<https://dwr.virginia.gov/hunters-landowners-sac>

advisorygroup@dwr.virginia.gov

