

## VIRGINIA INSTITUTE OF MARINE SCIENCE

# Increase in marine heat waves threatens coastal habitats.

by *David Malmquist* | January 7, 2022

*With continued warming, Chesapeake Bay will suffer extreme heat for half the year by 2100*

Heat waves—like the one that blistered the Pacific Northwest last June—also occur underwater. A new study in *Frontiers in Marine Science* paints a worrisome picture of recent and projected trends in marine heat waves within the nation’s largest estuary, with dire implications for the marine life and coastal economy of the Chesapeake Bay and other similarly impacted shallow-water ecosystems.

The study’s authors, Drs. Piero Mazzini and Cassia Pianca of William & Mary’s Virginia Institute of Marine Science, note they saw “significant upward trends in the frequency and yearly cumulative intensity of marine heat waves within the Chesapeake Bay.”

**Read the rest of the story at:**

[https://www.vims.edu/newsandevents/topstories/2022/bay\\_heat\\_waves.php](https://www.vims.edu/newsandevents/topstories/2022/bay_heat_waves.php)