

CONCEPT PLAN #1 SUMMARY

Overview:

Concept Plan #1 proposes the most recreation access improvements including improved roads, parking spaces, and pavilions. This plan includes changes to the main park road to relocate it away from the St. Francis Xavier Church entrance and to increase access and circulation at the southern end of the park. Proposed development includes the construction of three small pavilions at the Lacey Beach and one larger pavilion for special events in the Russell Area. A transient pier is proposed south of Fresh Pond.

Plan Element	Description
Main Road	Relocate main access road away from Church and construct large loop road at southern end of park for increased use of waterfront and field areas
Trails	Establish approximately 10 miles of pedestrian, bicycle, and equestrian trails that will include some new trails, as well as existing trails and farm roads
Trails – Cultural Heritage Loop	Create a ¾-mile ADA accessible trail around the Russell Area with signage for interpretation of historic and cultural resources and archaeological sites
Trails – Nature Trail Loop	Create a 1-mile nature trail loop with signage for education and interpretation about natural resources
Restrooms	Install composting toilets at the Russell Area and Lacey Beach
Kayak Launches	Construct 2 “soft” kayak launches: East Launch at Russell Area, West Launch on St. Clement’s Bay, across main road
Paddle-in Campsites	Designate 3 “primitive” paddle in camp-sites requiring reservations and limited to 6 people per site: one near Clem Point, one south of Payne Point, and one near Long Point
Transient Pier	Construct a transient pier located south of Payne Point with no public overnight docking that would provide temporary day-time docking for 8 recreational boaters, a permanent docking location for a Natural Resources Police vessel, and an access point for visitors traveling by boat to and from St. Clement’s Island State Park during special events
Beach Access	Designate 3 beach areas: one east of Lacey House, one west of Lacey House and one on Breton Bay, south of Clem Point
Fishing Areas	Designate 3 fishing areas along the Potomac shoreline; fishing permitted at other locations
Park Buildings	Renovate existing barn/equipment shed to function as a park office and nature center
Ranger House	Make modest repairs to the Russell House to be used as an operational house by park staff
Parking	Develop 125 parking spaces in 10 small gravel lots with the main lot at the Russell Area
Equestrian Parking	Develop an equestrian parking area (gravel) with 10 pull-through horse trailer spaces at southern end of Russell Area (water readily available)
Pavilions/Shelters	Construct 3 small pavilions (1,100 SF for 75 people) at the Lacey Beach and 1 larger special events pavilion (1,800 SF for 140) at the Russell Area near the waterfront
Overlooks/Observation Areas	Identify 3 overlooks as trail destinations that will include benches and interpretive signage: 1 near Payne Point, 1 on southern shore of Fresh Pond, and 1 at Long Point
Kayak Rental/Storage	Create a kayak rental/concessionaire opportunity at waterfront barn in the Russell Area
Picnic Area	Develop 10 picnic areas with each including a stabilized natural or improved surface, 5 picnic tables, grills, and landscaping for shade and privacy
Youth Camping Area	Create 1 youth camping area, for use by reservation only, on northeastern side of Fresh Pond and including a gravel, limited use parking lot with 10 spaces
Restoration Activities	Plant stream buffers to a width of 100 feet and plant approximately 50 acres of trees to expand existing forest and bird habitat at southern end of the park