



Photo Courtesy of Maryland Park Service



Strategic Management Partnership Plan

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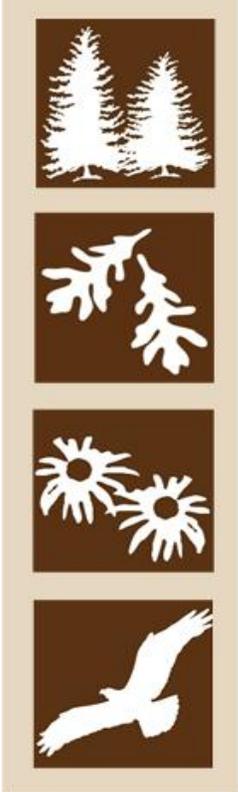
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November 2017

Date Prepared

Updates





Chapel Point State Park



Strategic Management Partnership Plan 2017

About the Plan

This document is the result of a cooperative conceptual planning process to facilitate a management partnership between the State and Charles County for a 50-acre tract of Chapel Point State Park. The purpose of developing the plan is to provide supporting documentation to accompany a long-term lease agreement between the County and the State. The plan establishes a path toward a sustainable future by laying the groundwork for a more detailed master site development plan to be prepared by the County. This preliminary planning document used a collaborative process to identify and evaluate the following essential elements of the park: 1) natural resources; 2) cultural and historic resources; 3) recreational resources; 4) human resources, and; 5) infrastructure. Using this background data and input from a public meeting, big-picture goals and targeted objectives were identified and will be used to develop a more formal implementation plan. This plan documents the process and is divided into four parts.

Part 1: Core Values

This section includes the Maryland Park Service mission and goals, brand promise, and a summary of the features that make the park a significant component of Maryland's state park system.

Part 2: Park Resources:

This section identifies and describes park-specific resources including natural resources, cultural and historic resources, recreational resources, human resources and infrastructure.

Part 3: Developing Big-Picture Goals:

This section identifies "big-picture" goals that are focused on promoting strengths, overcoming weaknesses, maximizing opportunities and eliminating threats. The goals are directly connected to reinforcing the significance of the state park and the core values of the Maryland Park Service.

Part 4: Establishing a Work Plan and Concept Plan:

This section serves as a road map that identifies specific actions and projects to effectively achieve the stated goals. It includes a timeline for completion, so that appropriate resources can be dedicated to accomplishment, and employees are empowered to move forward with tasks that support the park's goals and mission.



MAP 1: LOCATION MAP - CHAPEL POINT STATE PARK



Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

Maryland Park Service Mission and Goals

The mission of the Maryland Park Service is to manage the natural, cultural, historical, and recreational resources to provide for wise stewardship and enjoyment by people.

The goals of the Maryland Park Service are as follows:

- ▶ To promote, cultivate, and expand public knowledge, understanding, appreciation and support for the resources and services managed by the Maryland Park Service.
- ▶ To operate the Maryland Park Service in a manner that generates the atmosphere of teamwork, shared information, cooperation and trust at all levels of employment.
- ▶ To manage the Maryland Park Service in a manner that ensures the maximum benefit from each dollar and hour of labor expended.
- ▶ To promote the management of natural and cultural resources to ensure the continuing benefits for present and future generations.
- ▶ To provide diverse recreational services with an emphasis upon public safety and the provision of neat, clean and well-maintained resources.

Maryland Park Service Brand Promise

In 2010, Maryland Park Service employees and volunteers participated in an internal survey to define the Brand Promise of state parks to its visitors. Survey respondents were asked to define their views and attitudes regarding the most important elements that comprise the ideal state park and services, as well as the emotional rewards visitors should derive from their visit. The survey results produced the following key messages that define the Brand Promise of Maryland State Parks to visitors:

1. Providing a place where visitors can bring their children that nourishes their well-being in ways that only nature can provide.
2. Connecting visitors with each other and their surroundings, through the beauty and serenity of nature, in a safe and welcoming place that belongs to them.
3. Preserving and providing opportunities for visitors to discover important historical sites and relics that tell inspiring stories of people and events.
4. Creating an environment for relaxation with the reassuring presence of a friendly and dedicated Park Ranger who inspires and supports the desire to be a good steward of the Earth.
5. Imparting visitors with a sense of well-being an improved quality of life, so when they leave they are feeling stress-free and revitalized.



Photo Courtesy of MD Park Service

Purpose Statement

The purpose of Chapel Point State Park is to provide a natural and undeveloped area consisting of a variety of habitat types and ecosystems to provide opportunities for passive natural resources-based recreation, hunting, wildlife observation, and water quality protection.

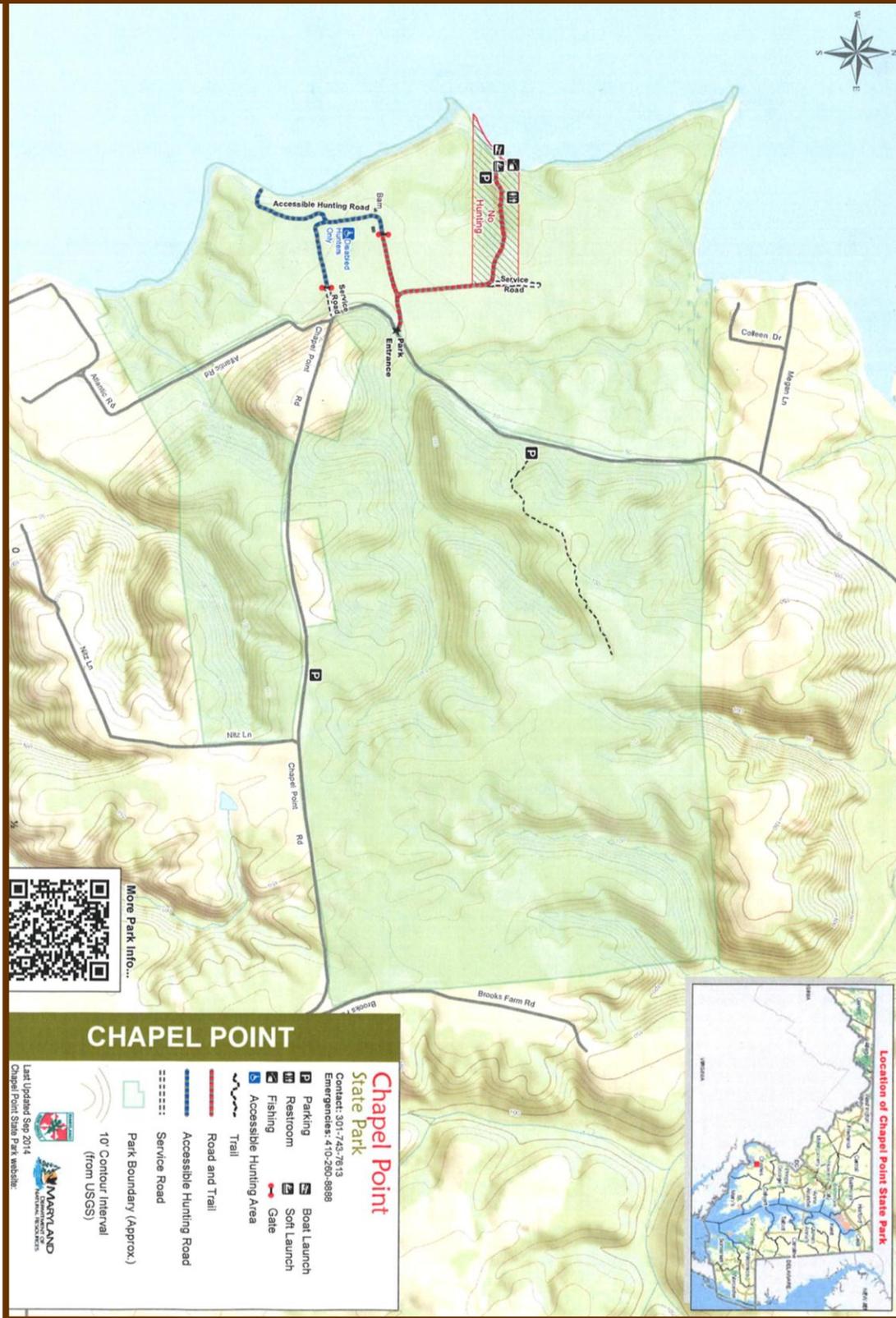
Park Description

Chapel Point State Park is located on the beautiful and tranquil Port Tobacco River, a tributary of the Potomac River. This 821-acre park is located five miles south of LaPlata in Charles County, and the property is easily accessible from Route 301 South by heading west on Chapel Point Road. The park consists of a mix of forests and fields and includes several streams, wetlands, and sandy beaches.

State – County Partnership

The purpose of this document is to identify a preliminary strategy for the Maryland Park Service to work cooperatively with Charles County to develop a master site development plan for a specific leased area of Chapel Point State Park. The primary objective of the proposed lease arrangement is to facilitate maintenance and enhanced use of access roads, parking areas, and waterfront recreation areas. The proposed County leased area is approximately 50 acres and includes the park access roads, a 15-foot maintenance strip on both sides of the road, and approximately 3,000 linear feet of shoreline. The leased area includes the existing boat launch and related infrastructure at the northern end of the property and extends southward to include Chapel Point. The leased area includes “Midway Beach,” which is currently used for beach access and picnicking, and could provide additional parking and a kayak launch for paddlers who prefer to launch in calm water away from anglers and motorized boats.

AREA MAP



2 **Park Resources**

PARK STATS (FISCAL YEAR 2011 – 2015)

TOTAL PARK ACREAGE	821
AVERAGE ANNUAL VISITATION	23,000
AVERAGE ANNUAL REVENUE (excluding concession revenue)	8,000
AVERAGE ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET* (excluding classified employee	0
TOTAL CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES** (including filled and vacant PINs)	0
*OPERATING BUDGET IS SHARED BY THE FOLLOWING STATE PARKS:	
**EMPLOYEES ARE SHARED BY THE FOLLOWING STATE PARKS:	

YEAR	SCHEDULED CAPITAL PROJECTS	AMOUNT
	No planned Capital Improvement Projects.	

YEAR	SCHEDULED CRITICAL MAINTENANCE	AMOUNT
	No identified Critical Maintenance Projects.	

Natural Resources

KEY FEATURES

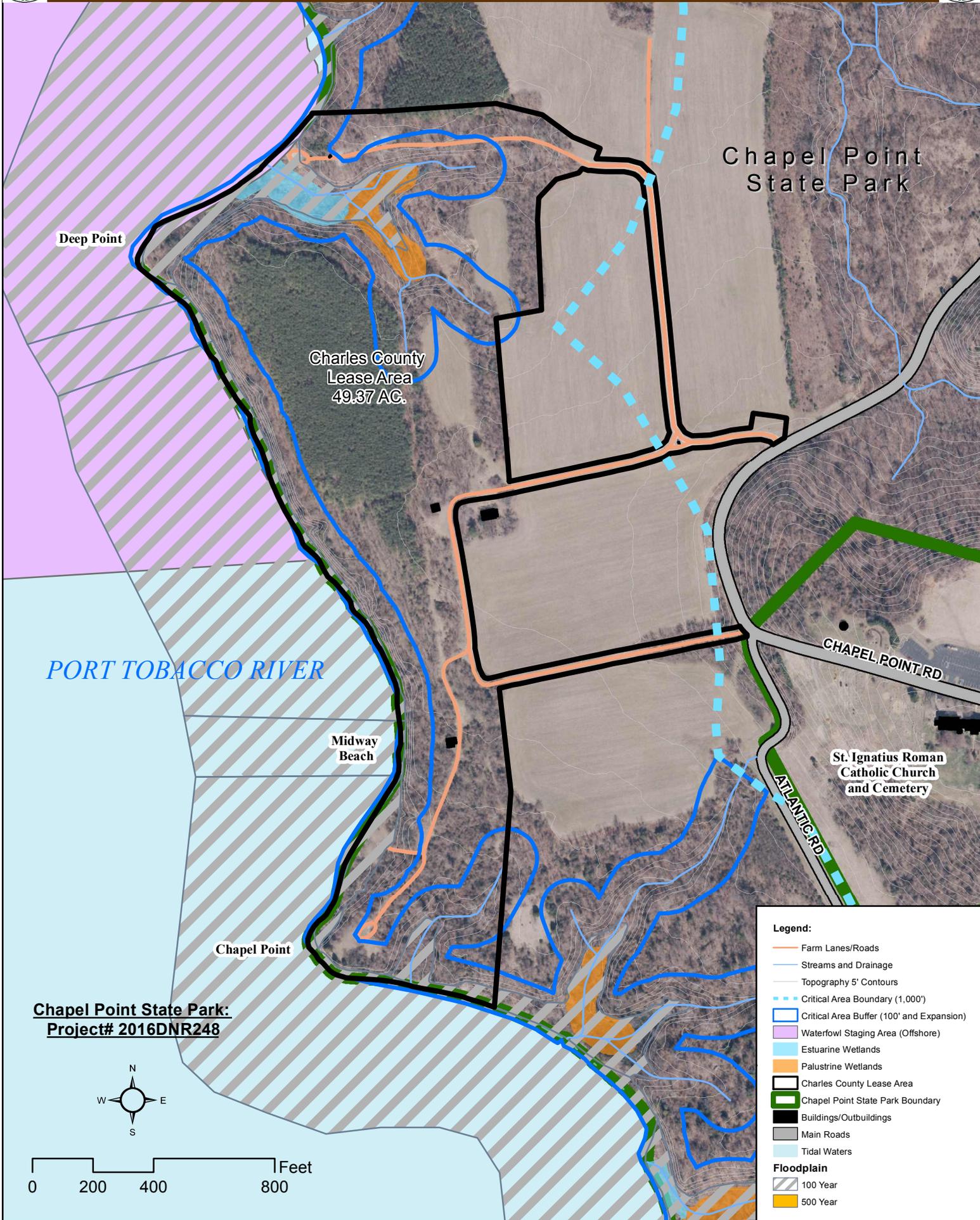
- ▶ Tidal and non-tidal wetlands that support a rich variety of aquatic flora and fauna.
- ▶ Diverse terrestrial habitats and ecosystems that support a wide array of flora and fauna.
- ▶ Port Tobacco River and associated aquatic resources.
- ▶ A significant stream and wetland network north of Deep Point.
- ▶ Three significant tributary streams, south and east of Chapel Point.
- ▶ Approximately 680 acres of Forest Interior Dwelling Species (birds) habitat.
- ▶ Sandy beach areas north of Chapel Point and near Deep Point.

DESCRIPTION

Chapel Point State Park is comprised of various ecosystems, including the Port Tobacco River, sandy beaches, tidal and non-tidal wetlands, riparian buffers, shrub-scrub areas, mixed hardwood forest, and agricultural fields. The park's variety of ecosystems creates a high level of biodiversity, to include a wide array of wildlife, including various amphibian species, an array of reptiles, white-tailed deer, turkey, bald eagle, osprey, Canada geese, woodcock, fox and raccoon.

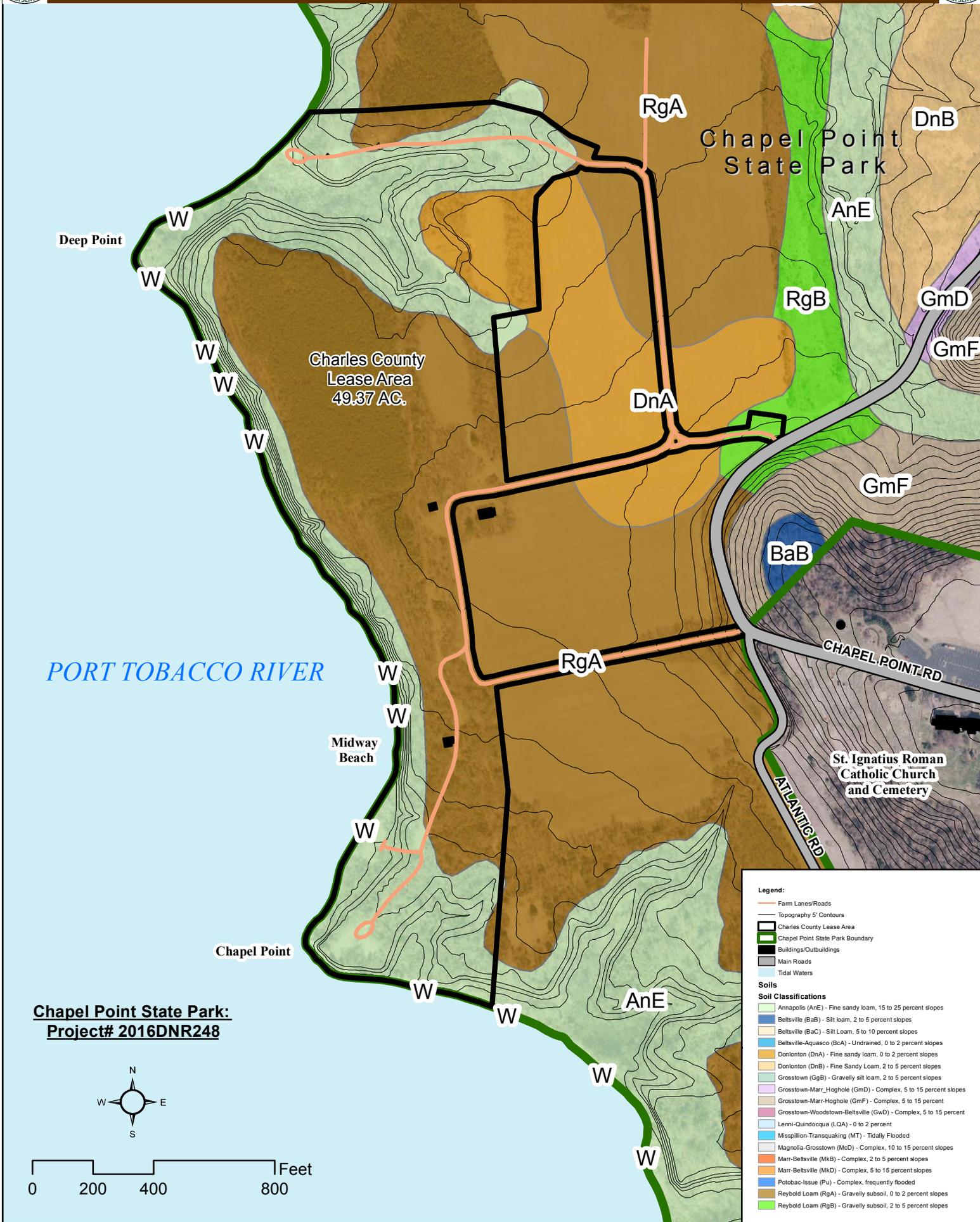


MAP 2: ENVIRONMENTAL FEATURES - CHAPEL POINT STATE PARK





MAP 3: SOILS AND TOPOGRAPHY - CHAPEL POINT STATE PARK



**Chapel Point State Park:
Project# 2016DNR248**



0 200 400 800 Feet

Cultural/Historical Resources

KEY FEATURES

- ▶ Several prehistoric sites (sites 18CH112, 18CH113, and 18CH343) that include shell middens and a variety of prehistoric stone tools dating to the late Archaic period (ca. 4,000 -1,000 B.C.).
- ▶ Site 18CH79 is identified as a multi-component site containing a prehistoric shell midden and short-term base camp dating to the Woodland period (ca. 1,000 B.C. – A.D. 1720).
- ▶ An historic cemetery utilized throughout the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth centuries (four historic graves were found to be eroding from the bank in 1987).
- ▶ Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties site, CH-16 (Chapel Point), first established before 1640 as a Jesuit mission by Father Andrew White.

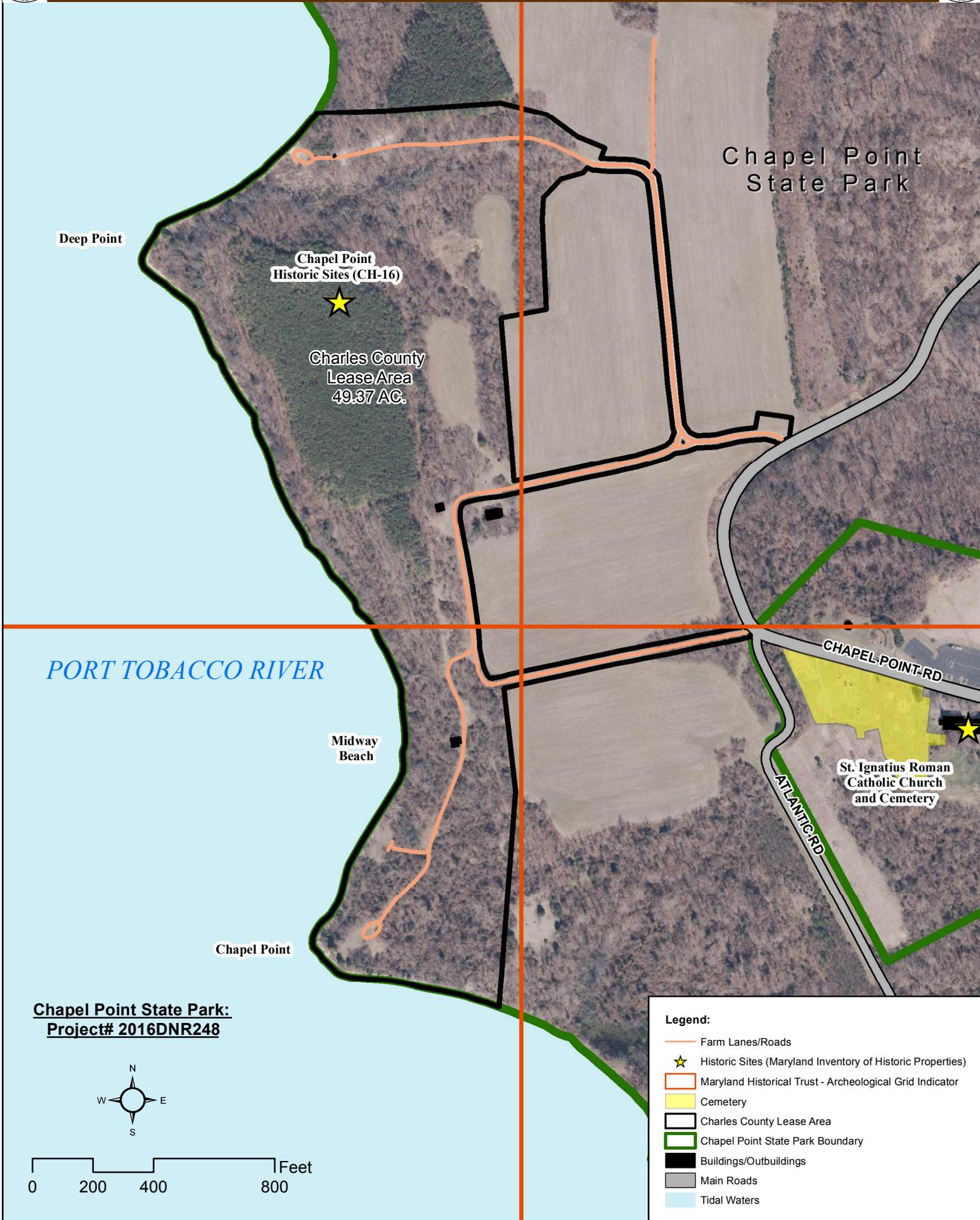
DESCRIPTION

Precise limits of the archaeological sites have not been verified, and few of the sites have been evaluated with regard to their eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. The presence of these sites and the overall archaeological sensitivity of the Chapel Point property, are a good indication that the property has a high potential of containing significant archaeological resources not identified yet. Proposed development and landscape alteration has a moderate to high potential of impacting known resources. Archaeological survey work may be needed prior to site development or ground disturbing activities, requiring close coordination for the Master Site Development Plan.

Chapel Point was operated by the Jesuits as a working farm from approximately 1640 until the second quarter of the 20th century. The property included a warehouse, wharf, grist mill, tavern, and store and the community included both African slaves and Irish servants. During the Civil War, the site was occupied by Federal troops. The property was also used as a resort and recreation area known as the Hotel Belleview, which was established on the property in the late nineteenth century. An amusement park was constructed on the site in 1926 and was similar to several other developed waterfront parks that provided a way for urban dwellers to escape the cities and enjoy the outdoors.



MAP 4: HISTORICAL/CULTURAL RESOURCES - CHAPEL POINT STATE PARK



Recreational Resources

KEY FEATURES

- ▶ Natural sand boat launch and kayak launch with portable restroom.
- ▶ Car and boat trailer parking (10 spaces).
- ▶ Waterfront picnic area and beach.
- ▶ Nearly five miles of hiking trails.
- ▶ Approximately 550 acres of hunting land.
- ▶ An area designated for disabled hunters.
- ▶ A fishing beach.

DESCRIPTION

Chapel Point State Park's 821 acres function as a multi-use recreational facility with activities ranging from bird watching and hiking to hunting and fishing. Located on the Port Tobacco River, the property provides a perfect setting for a variety of water-oriented activities, and its shoreline areas are used by anglers, kayakers, and picnickers. Fishermen can launch a boat for easy access to the Port Tobacco and Potomac Rivers, as well as Nanjemoy Creek. Recreational fishermen can catch species including striped bass, catfish, croaker, white perch and yellow perch.

The park includes several miles of lightly traveled gravel farm roads and approximately five miles of trails through hardwood forest and along field edges. The mostly flat to gently rolling topography on the west side of Chapel Point Road provide opportunities for additional trail development. On the east side of Chapel Point Road, the terrain is steeper and more rugged and this part of the property lends itself more readily to upland hunting opportunities.

Employee Resources

KEY RESOURCES

- ▶ Five full-time classified employees of the Southern Maryland Recreational Complex patrol and maintain Chapel Point from Smallwood State Park, but there is no staff assigned full-time to Chapel Point.
- ▶ Four of the seasonal / contractual employees who work at Smallwood State Park also assist at Chapel Point.

DESCRIPTION

Chapel Point is part of the Southern Maryland Recreational Complex, which has some of its staff based out of Smallwood State Park. There are five full-time classified employees assigned to Smallwood, including one park services supervisor, two park services associates (park rangers), one park maintenance program supervisor, and one park technician. In addition to Smallwood State Park and Chapel Point State Park, these employees are also responsible for Calvert Cliffs State Park, Chapel Point State Park, Chapman State Park, Mattawoman Natural Environment Area and Zekiah Swamp Natural Environment Area.

There are no MPS seasonal staff dedicated to Chapel Point, so there is no full time presence there. Seasonal staff are shared with Smallwood, which typically has a seasonal labor force of 14 people, including one visitor services attendant, three seasonal rangers, one park naturalist, three contact station attendants, one or two maintenance workers, one concession manager, and three concession attendants. Some of these employees, the seasonal rangers and maintenance workers, assist in visiting Chapel Point several times a week during the summer months, but there is not a significant staff presence at Chapel Point.

Infrastructure

KEY RESOURCES

- ▶ Parking area (approximately 15 cars), portable restrooms, natural sand power boat launch and kayak launch just north of Deep Point.
- ▶ Access road and unimproved (mowed grass) parking areas near Midway Beach and Chapel Point
- ▶ Paddle-in campsite, beach access, and picnic area at Midway Beach
- ▶ Overlook and grassy picnic area at Chapel Point.
- ▶ Disabled hunter access road and three parking pads to allow for hunting from a vehicle.

DESCRIPTION

As an undeveloped park, Chapel Point lacks significant infrastructure. In fact, many park patrons prefer this type of remote, rustic and natural experience to one that includes amenities like buildings, paved parking lots and playgrounds. Currently, the park accommodates approximately 15 vehicles in its gravel and grass parking areas. Most of these visitors utilize the park's beach for fishing and picnicking. Portable toilets accommodate visitors' needs as there is no electricity or running water in the park at this time. Boaters are able to launch shallow draft vessels at the park's boat launch, while canoe and kayak enthusiasts are able to overnight in the park's paddle-in campsite. The park also includes special road access and improved hunting pads to meet the needs of disable hunters that hunt from their vehicles.

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Big-Picture Goals

NATURAL RESOURCE GOALS

- 1 Conserve, protect, and enhance the natural resources of the park while improving basic infrastructure and providing natural-resource oriented recreational access and well-maintained facilities.
- 2 Enhance the quality and ecosystem functions of existing forested areas, wetlands, streams, fields, and shoreline and stream buffers.
- 3 Enhance existing Forest Interior Dwelling Species (FIDS) habitat and forest resources, particularly along the shoreline.

CULTURAL/ HISTORICAL RESOURCE GOALS

- 4 Protect, promote, and interpret the Piscataway connection to the property and the region by establishing a potential site for facilities and activities.
- 5 Integrate recreational and tourism opportunities at the park with major County investments and improvements at the historic Port Tobacco Village and at the Port Tobacco River Park.
- 6 As resources permit, perform archaeological and historical survey work to ensure that cultural and historical resources are protected and explore ways to interpret the site’s rich history for visitors.

RECREATIONAL RESOURCE GOALS

- 7 Maintain and promote passive recreation activities such as hiking, beach-combing, kayaking, and bird watching and provide appropriate accommodations to limit user conflicts.
- 8 Acknowledge the historic use of the property for hunting and identify and maintain 55 acres of land for hunters with disabilities in accordance with the Pittman-Robertson agreement for the site.
- 9 Improve roads, parking, restrooms, and park signage at the boat launch, Midway Beach, and Chapel Point so that visitors are accommodated and adverse impacts to resources and facilities are avoided.
- 10 Improve and stabilize boat launch and fishing area and road access to these areas, so that these activities are safe and sustainable and user conflicts are minimized

EMPLOYEE RESOURCE GOALS

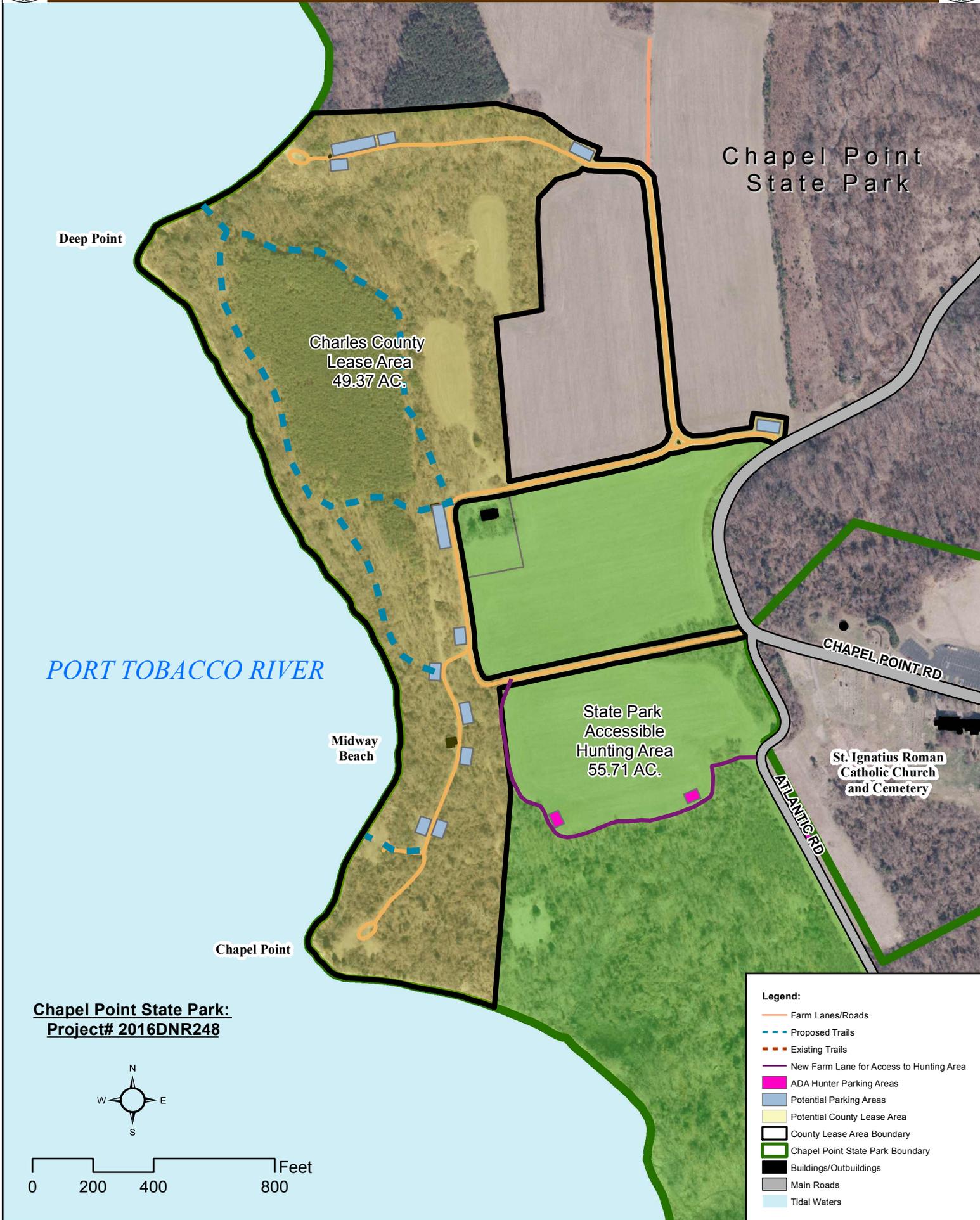
- 11 Establish a cooperative working relationship between Charles County and Maryland Park Service staff to improve a staff presence at the park and discourage unauthorized use and activities.

INFRASTRUCTURE GOALS

- 12 Restrict and limit new development and roads, locate and design facilities to minimize natural resource impacts, and utilize existing infrastructure to the extent possible.
- 13 Maintain the rustic and “back-country feel” of the property by ensuring all improvements are consistent with the rural and agricultural vernacular of the area.

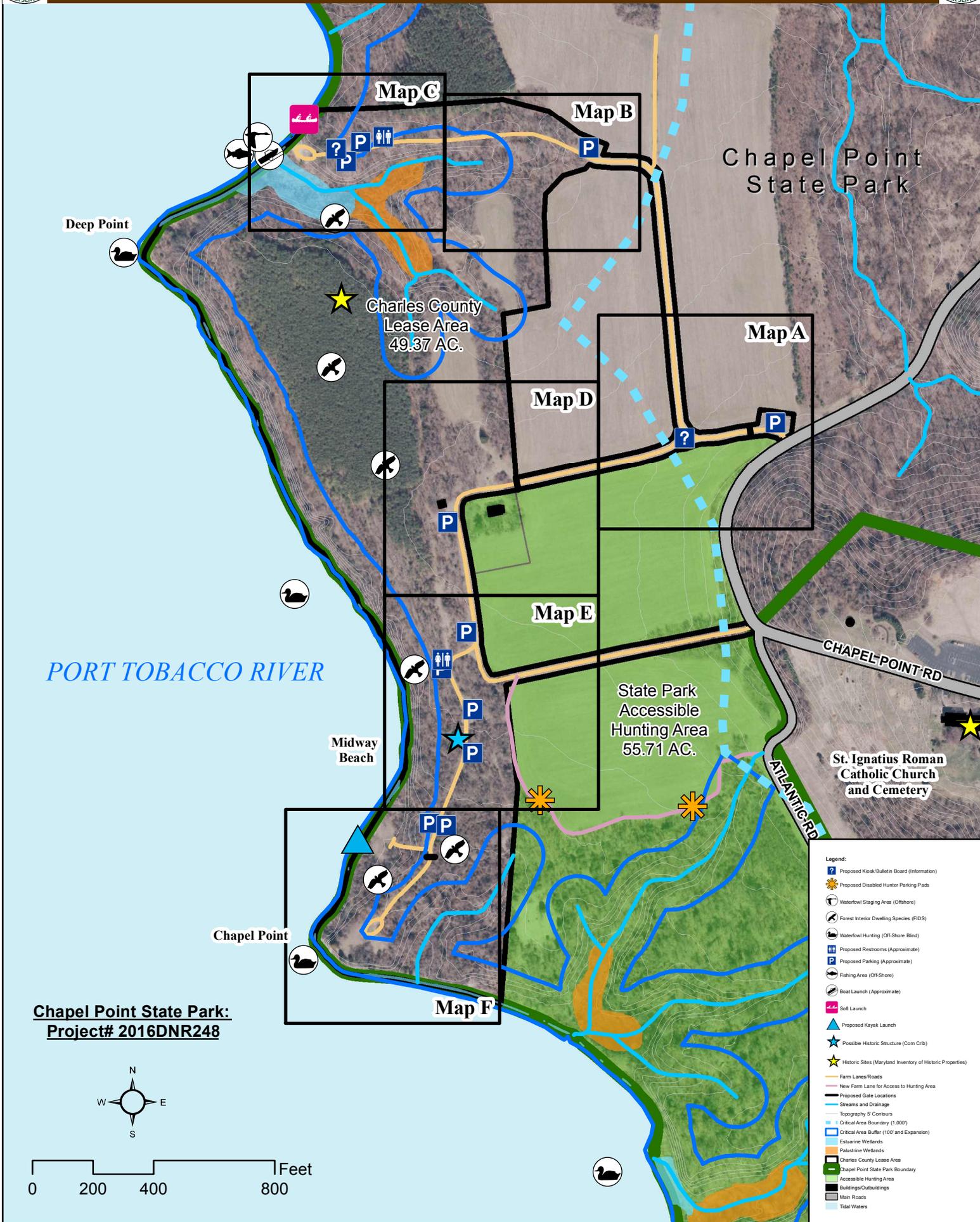


MAP 5: CHARLES COUNTY LEASE AREA - CHAPEL POINT STATE PARK





MAP 6: CONCEPT PLAN (MAP KEY) - CHAPEL POINT STATE PARK

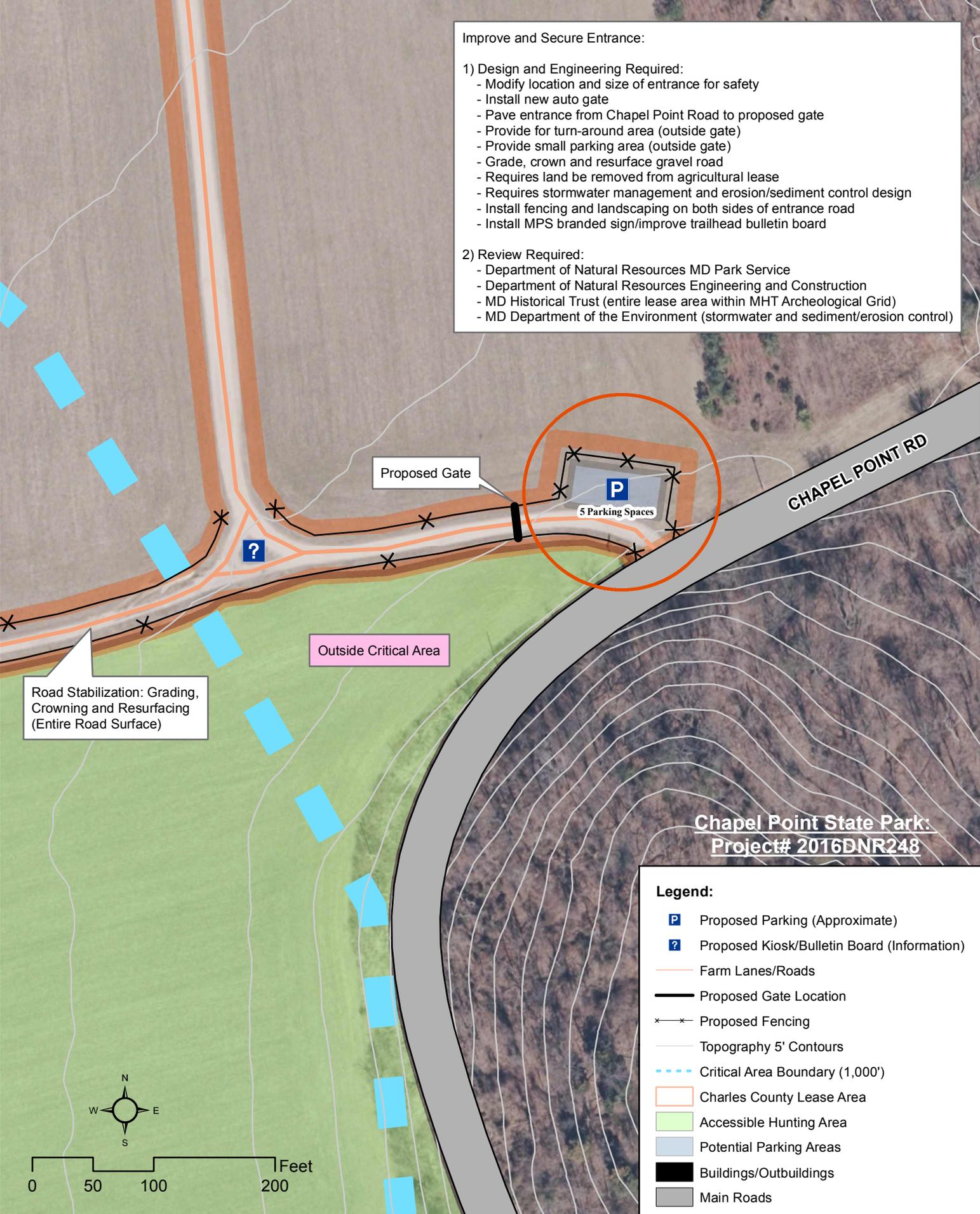




MAP A: IMPROVE AND SECURE ENTRANCE



- Improve and Secure Entrance:
- 1) Design and Engineering Required:
 - Modify location and size of entrance for safety
 - Install new auto gate
 - Pave entrance from Chapel Point Road to proposed gate
 - Provide for turn-around area (outside gate)
 - Provide small parking area (outside gate)
 - Grade, crown and resurface gravel road
 - Requires land be removed from agricultural lease
 - Requires stormwater management and erosion/sediment control design
 - Install fencing and landscaping on both sides of entrance road
 - Install MPS branded sign/improve trailhead bulletin board
 - 2) Review Required:
 - Department of Natural Resources MD Park Service
 - Department of Natural Resources Engineering and Construction
 - MD Historical Trust (entire lease area within MHT Archeological Grid)
 - MD Department of the Environment (stormwater and sediment/erosion control)



Road Stabilization: Grading, Crowning and Resurfacing (Entire Road Surface)

Outside Critical Area

Proposed Gate

5 Parking Spaces

CHAPEL POINT RD

Chapel Point State Park:
Project# 2016DNR248

Legend:

- P Proposed Parking (Approximate)
- ? Proposed Kiosk/Bulletin Board (Information)
- Farm Lanes/Roads
- Proposed Gate Location
- * * * Proposed Fencing
- Topography 5' Contours
- Critical Area Boundary (1,000')
- Charles County Lease Area
- Accessible Hunting Area
- Potential Parking Areas
- Buildings/Outbuildings
- Main Roads



MAP B: IMPROVE LAUNCH ACCESS ROAD AND PARKING



Improve Launch Area Access Road and Parking:

1) Design and Engineering Required:

- Grade, crown and resurface gravel road
- Address drainage issue at stream/wetland, may require design and permitting
- Develop small gravel parking area
- Requires land to be removed from agricultural lease
- Requires stormwater management/erosion sediment control design, wetland delineation
- May require wetland delineation/culvert design

2) Review Required:

- Department of Natural Resources MD Park Service
- Department of Natural Resources Engineering and Construction
- MD Historical Trust (entire lease area within MHT Archeological Grid)
- MD Department of the Environment (stormwater and sediment/erosion control, wetland delineation/permitting)
- Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Commission

Drainage Issue; Possible Culvert Location

Road Stabilization: Grading, Crowning and Resurfacing (Entire Road Surface)

8 Parking Spaces

Chapel Point State Park:
Project# 2016DNR248

Legend:

- Proposed Parking (Approximate)
- Farm Lanes/Roads
- Streams and Drainage
- Topography 5' Contours
- Critical Area Boundary (1,000')
- Critical Area Buffer (100' and Expansion)
- Estuarine Wetlands
- Palustrine Wetlands
- Charles County Lease Area
- Potential Parking Areas



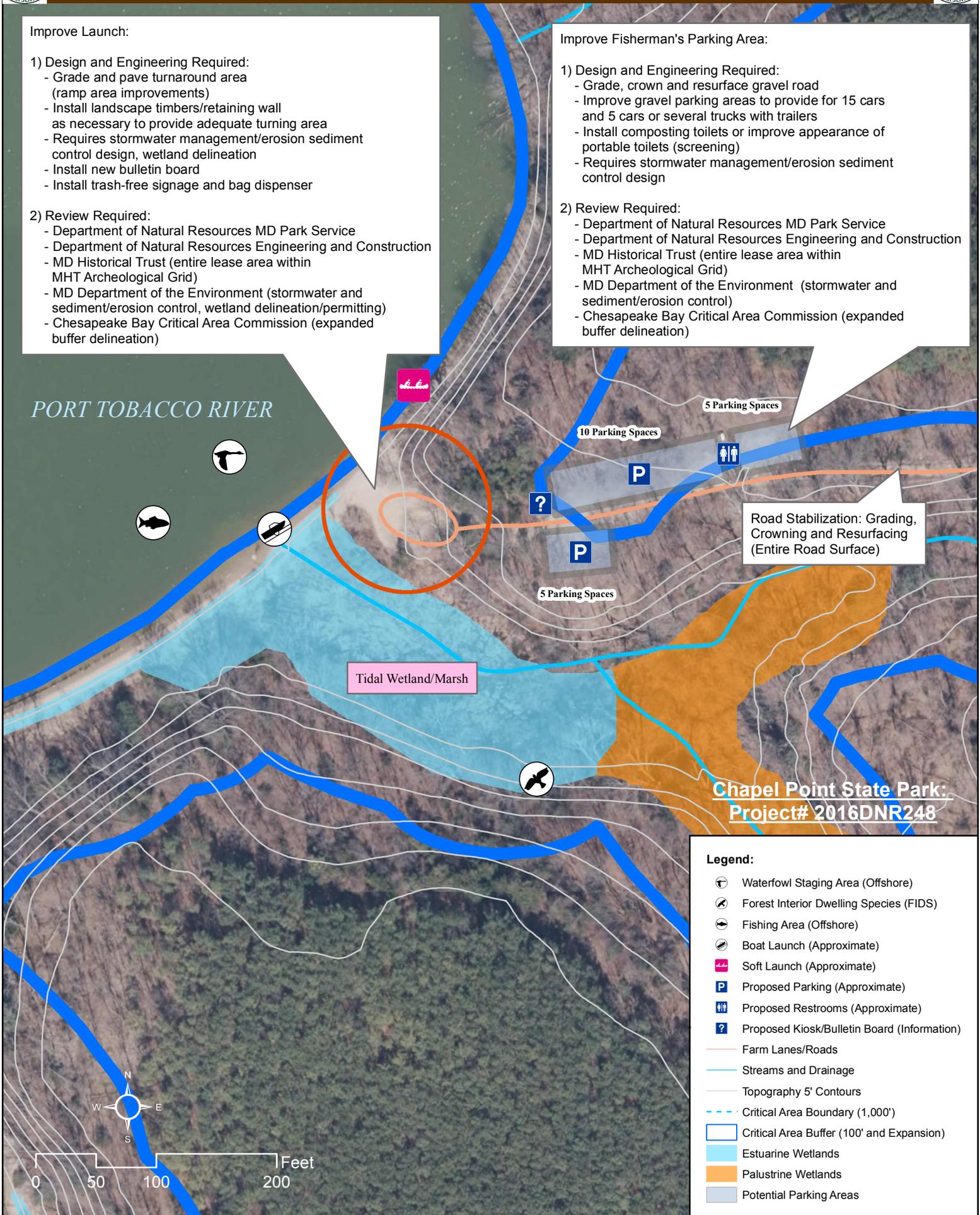
0 50 100 200 Feet

Improve Launch:

- 1) Design and Engineering Required:
 - Grade and pave turnaround area (ramp area improvements)
 - Install landscape timbers/retaining wall as necessary to provide adequate turning area
 - Requires stormwater management/erosion sediment control design, wetland delineation
 - Install new bulletin board
 - Install trash-free signage and bag dispenser
- 2) Review Required:
 - Department of Natural Resources MD Park Service
 - Department of Natural Resources Engineering and Construction
 - MD Historical Trust (entire lease area within MHT Archeological Grid)
 - MD Department of the Environment (stormwater and sediment/erosion control, wetland delineation/permitting)
 - Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Commission (expanded buffer delineation)

Improve Fisherman's Parking Area:

- 1) Design and Engineering Required:
 - Grade, crown and resurface gravel road
 - Improve gravel parking areas to provide for 15 cars and 5 cars or several trucks with trailers
 - Install composting toilets or improve appearance of portable toilets (screening)
 - Requires stormwater management/erosion sediment control design
- 2) Review Required:
 - Department of Natural Resources MD Park Service
 - Department of Natural Resources Engineering and Construction
 - MD Historical Trust (entire lease area within MHT Archeological Grid)
 - MD Department of the Environment (stormwater and sediment/erosion control)
 - Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Commission (expanded buffer delineation)





MAP D: IMPROVE ROAD, PARKING AND MAINTENANCE BUILDING



Improve Road, Parking, and Maintenance Building:

1) Design and Engineering Required:

- Grade, crown and resurface gravel road
- Raze barn on west side in lease area and install gravel parking area
- Improve gate and signage
- Construct 800 square feet maintenance building (e.g. Morton Equestrian Pole Barn)
- Requires stormwater management/erosion sediment control design

2) Review Required:

- Department of Natural Resources MD Park Service
- Department of Natural Resources Engineering and Construction
- MD Historical Trust (entire lease area within MHT Archeological Grid)
- MD Department of the Environment (stormwater and sediment/erosion control)

Proposed County Maintenance Building



Road Stabilization: Grading, Crowning and Resurfacing (Entire Road Surface)

Proposed Gate



Signage Improvements (New Sign Required)

Structural Assessment Required (Razing)



10 Parking Spaces



Prime Farmland

Chapel Point State Park:
Project# 2016DNR248

Legend:

- Forest Interior Dwelling Species (FIDS)
- Proposed Parking (Approximate)
- Farm Lanes/Roads
- Proposed Gate Location
- Proposed Fencing
- Topography 5' Contours
- Critical Area Boundary (1,000')
- Critical Area Buffer (100' and Expansion)
- Charles County Lease Area
- Accessible Hunting Area
- Proposed Maintenance Building
- Potential Parking Areas
- Buildings/Outbuildings

100' Critical Area Buffer

Road Stabilization: Grading, Crowning and Resurfacing (Entire Road Surface)





MAP E: IMPROVE BEACH AREA PARKING AND HUNTER ACCESS



Improve Beach Area Parking and Hunter Access:

1) Design and Engineering Required:

- Grade, crown and resurface gravel road
- Install gravel parking areas
- Assess structural stability of Corn Crib/stabilize structure, perform Determination of Eligibility, develop design and interpretation
- Install composting toilets or portable restrooms with screening (to be located near north parking area)
- Requires stormwater management/erosion sediment control design
- Install farm road and two parking pads on field edge to provide disabled hunter access

2) Review Required:

- Department of Natural Resources MD Park Service
- Department of Natural Resources Engineering and Construction
- MD Historical Trust (entire Lease Area within MHT Archeological Grid)
- MD Department of the Environment (stormwater and sediment/erosion control)
- Charles County Soil Conservation District (farm road)



Improve Beach Access:

1) Design and Engineering Required:

- Grade, crown, and resurface gravel road
- Install gravel parking area
- Install soft kayak launch with signage/life-ring etc., provide kayak unloading area with fencing and signage for temporary parking only
- Install gate past kayak launch area (entrance to picnic area)
- Requires stormwater management/erosion sediment control design

2) Review Required:

- Department of Natural Resources MD Park Service
- Department of Natural Resources Engineering and Construction
- MD Historical Trust (entire Lease Area within MHT Archeological Grid)
- MD Department of the Environment (stormwater and sediment/erosion control)
- Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Commission

Road Stabilization: Grading, Crowning, and Resurfacing (Entire Road Surface)

Create Waterfront Picnic Area/Overlook:

1) Design and Engineering Required:

- Grade, crown, and resurface road
- Create turnaround area
- Create picnic area and install picnic tables
- Install fencing at overlook for safety
- Implement Critical Area Buffer Management Plan
- Install trash-free signage and bag dispenser

2) Review Required:

- Department of Natural Resources MD Park Service
- Department of Natural Resources Engineering and Construction
- MD Historical Trust (entire Lease Area within MHT Archeological Grid)
- Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Commission

2,000 SF
10 Parking Spaces

Chapel Point State Park:
Project# 2016DNR248

Legend:

- Waterfowl Hunting (Offshore)
- Forest Interior Dwelling Species (FIDS)
- Proposed Kayak Launch (Approximate)
- Proposed Parking (Approximate)
- Farm Lanes/Roads
- Proposed Gate Location
- Proposed Fencing
- Streams and Drainage
- Topography 5' Contours
- Critical Area Boundary (1,000')
- Critical Area Buffer (100' and Expansion)
- Estuarine Wetlands
- Palustrine Wetlands
- Accessible Hunting Area
- Potential Parking Areas
- Buildings/Outbuildings



PORT TOBACCO RIVER

4 **Work Plan**

GOAL #1 Conserve, protect, and enhance the natural resources of the park while improving basic infrastructure and providing natural-resource oriented recreational access and well-maintained facilities.

PROJECTS AND ACTIONS	TIMELINE
Improve the park entrance by installing a branded sign, gate, fencing and landscaping, and providing a small parking and turnaround area.	2018-20
Repair and maintain existing roads to the boat launch, beach access, and Chapel Point, and restrict access to leased agricultural lands.	2018-19
Encourage and support the historic use of the park’s waters and shoreline by Maryland waterfowl hunters and watermen through the retention and management of the property’s riparian rights by the Department of Natural Resources.	2018-19

COMMENTS/ PROGRESS REPORT

4 **Work Plan**

GOAL #2 Enhance the quality and ecosystem functions of existing forested areas, wetlands, streams, fields, and shoreline and stream buffers.

PROJECTS AND ACTIONS	TIMELINE
Identify areas where natural resources are being adversely affected by human activity, particularly unauthorized vehicle access, and restrict access to these areas using fencing, gates, signs, plantings, etc.	2018-19
Work with the Southern Maryland Audubon Society and other partners to perform a habitat evaluation of the area to see if it is suitable for kestrel box installation.	2018-19
Work with a licensed forester (State, county, or private) to develop a forest management plan for the property to improve the quality of existing forest habitat.	2018-19
Evaluate water quality in the wetland area near the boat launch and identify sources of pollutants and address them.	2018-20
Assess shoreline conditions and identify eroding areas that may require protection. Explore opportunities for grant funding for shoreline restoration, marsh creation, and beach nourishment.	2020-22

COMMENTS/ PROGRESS REPORT

4 **Work Plan**

GOAL #3 Enhance existing Forest Interior Dwelling Species (FIDS) habitat and forest resources, particularly along the shoreline.

PROJECTS AND ACTIONS	TIMELINE
Work with a licensed forester to prepare and implement a forest management plan for riparian buffer areas to improve structural diversity and FIDS habitat.	2019-20
Assess forest resources, identify areas of invasive species, and develop a plan for eradication of the latter.	2019-20
Develop a Critical Area Buffer Management Plan for the areas near the boat launch, Midway Beach, and Chapel Point to remove vines and invasive plants and plant hardwood tree species to improve forest health.	2020-21
Work with county staff on seasonal “restoration days” to work on forest improvement and planting projects using volunteers, interns, and local residents.	2019-20

COMMENTS/ PROGRESS REPORT

4 **Work Plan**

GOAL #4 Protect, promote, and interpret the Piscataway connection to the property and the region by establishing a potential site for facilities and activities.

PROJECTS AND ACTIONS	TIMELINE
Work cooperatively with the Piscataway tribe to build on their interest in and connection to, Chapel Point.	Ongoing
Continue to work with the Piscataway tribe and other partners to explore opportunities for a potential site for tribe activities.	Ongoing
Obtain additional information and perform historical research to determine if the property includes American Indian burial grounds, and if so, the location and extent of the burial grounds.	2018-20

COMMENTS/ PROGRESS REPORT

4 **Work Plan**

GOAL #5 Integrate recreational and tourism opportunities at the park with major county investments and improvements at the historic Port Tobacco Village and at the Port Tobacco River Park.

PROJECTS AND ACTIONS	TIMELINE
Work cooperatively with County staff to develop and implement programs and activities at Chapel Point.	Ongoing
Update the Department of Natural Resources website for Chapel Point to highlight improvements and focus on opportunities for passive recreation.	2018
Develop a trail guide for Chapel Point, using the Park Service Trail Guide format, which highlights all amenities / opportunities at the park.	2019-20
Explore opportunities for funding to perform archaeological survey work on the property to facilitate a better understanding of the property’s role in American Indian, colonial American, and Jesuit history.	2019-20
Integrate recreational and tourism opportunities and connect to other sites, particularly within the larger “Port Tobacco Corridor.”	Ongoing

COMMENTS/ PROGRESS REPORT

4 **Work Plan**

GOAL #6 As resources permit, perform archaeological and historical survey work to ensure that cultural and historical resources are protected, and explore ways to interpret the site’s rich history for visitors.

PROJECTS AND ACTIONS	TIMELINE
Coordinate closely with the Maryland Historical Trust on the Master Site Development Plan and all proposed development projects.	2018-20
Explore opportunities for funding to perform archaeological survey work on the property to facilitate a better understanding of the property’s role in American Indian, colonial American, and Jesuit history.	2020 -22

COMMENTS/ PROGRESS REPORT

4 **Work Plan**

GOAL #7 Maintain and promote passive recreation activities such as hiking, beach-combing, kayaking, bird watching and provide appropriate accommodations to limit user conflicts.

PROJECTS AND ACTIONS	TIMELINE
Develop a design for improvements at the Deep Point Launch to stabilize the road and provide a turnaround and parking. Limit the size of boats that can be launched to 14 feet or less. Install necessary stormwater management practices.	2018-20
Redesign existing parking area to provide parking for 15 cars and 5 cars with trailers.	2018-20
Limit vehicle access at the Midway Beach Area using a gate, fencing, and permeable pavers to allow for unloading. Restore the flat, grass area adjacent to the beach for use as a picnic area.	2020-22
Provide three gravel parking areas for five to ten cars in existing cleared areas along the main access road. Use timber wheel stops and signage to designate spaces and keep vehicles from parking in unauthorized areas.	2020-22
Expand hiking trails to create a stacked loop system and install appropriate trail signage and marking.	2019-22
Relocate existing paddle-in campsite to better utilize the beach area and provide a more secluded location for paddle-in camping.	2019-22

COMMENTS/ PROGRESS REPORT

4 **Work Plan**

GOAL #8 Acknowledge the historic use of the property for hunting and identify and maintain 55 acres of hunting land for hunters with disabilities in accordance with the Pittman-Robertson agreement for the site.

PROJECTS AND ACTIONS	TIMELINE
Reconfigure the area currently used by hunters with disabilities to direct hunting toward the field areas rather than the shoreline.	2018
Relocate the disabled hunter access road and create a farm road at the edge of the agricultural field for disabled hunter access.	2018
Formally delineate the acreage and area of land identified for use by hunters with disabilities in accordance with the Pittman-Robertson agreement and provide appropriate signage for the park information board.	2018
Clarify that the entire property is open to hunting (except for the county leased area, which will be limited to waterfowl hunting) and implement a hunter permit and reservation system to more formally control and monitor hunting activity on the site.	2018
Use the current lock system to better manage disabled hunter access.	2018

COMMENTS/ PROGRESS REPORT

4 **Work Plan**

GOAL #9 Improve roads, parking, restrooms, and park signage at the boat launch, Midway Beach, and Chapel Point so that visitors are accommodated and adverse impacts to resources and facilities are avoided.

PROJECTS AND ACTIONS	TIMELINE
Work with a consultant to design improvements for these areas that are modest in scale, minimize clearing and lot coverage, and maintain the area's natural feel.	2018-20
Submit concept designs to the Department of Natural Resources Maryland Park Service for internal review.	2020
Work with a consultant to develop construction documents and obtain permits.	2020
Construct improvements.	2020 - 22

COMMENTS/ PROGRESS REPORT

4 **Work Plan**

GOAL #10 Improve and stabilize boat launch and fishing area and road access to these areas, so that these activities are safe and sustainable and user conflicts are minimized

PROJECTS AND ACTIONS	TIMELINE
Work with a consultant to design improvements to the boat launch and fishing area that provide safe access and address drainage and erosion issues.	2018-20
Submit concept designs to the Department of Natural Resources Maryland Park Service for internal review.	2020
Work with a consultant to develop construction documents and obtain permits.	2020
Construct improvements.	2020 - 22

COMMENTS/ PROGRESS REPORT

4 **Work Plan**

GOAL #11 Establish a cooperative working relationship between Charles County and Park Service staff to improve staff presence at the park and discourage unauthorized use and activities.

PROJECTS AND ACTIONS	TIMELINE
Develop and execute a lease agreement with Charles County to manage and maintain a 50-acre portion of Chapel Point State Park in accordance with a cooperatively developed master site development plan for the leased area.	2017
Work with Charles County staff to develop a master site development plan for a 50-acre leased area within two years.	2018-20

COMMENTS/ PROGRESS REPORT

4 **Work Plan**

GOAL #12 Restrict and limit new development and roads, locate and design facilities to minimize natural resource impacts, and utilize existing infrastructure to the extent possible.

PROJECTS AND ACTIONS	TIMELINE
Improve existing roads and use gates, bollards, fencing, and landscaping to restrict vehicle access in areas where it is not authorized / desirable.	2018-19
Use signs and wheel stops to identify parking areas and discourage parking in unauthorized areas.	2018-19

COMMENTS/ PROGRESS REPORT

4 **Work Plan**

GOAL #13 Maintain the rustic and “back-country feel” of the property by ensuring all improvements are consistent with the rural and agricultural vernacular of the area.

PROJECTS AND ACTIONS	TIMELINE
Working cooperatively with a consultant, prepare a master site development plan that provides well-maintained visitor amenities that support the use of the property as a passive, nature-based recreation area.	2018-20
Ensure that all site improvements, including fencing, landscaping, benches, picnic tables, road surfaces, and signs, are appropriate for a “natural” park setting.	2019-22
Construct a new maintenance building that is compatible with the rural vernacular of the area (west of the “No Hunting Area” near the sharp left turn).	2020-22
Install benches, picnic tables, trailheads and restroom facilities that are appropriate for the level of use, location, and “natural feel” of the property.	2019-22
Address issues with trash and illegal dumping to ensure that the area is clean and well-maintained.	2018-22
Add bilingual signs to ensure better understanding of regulations by all visitors.	2018-22

COMMENTS/ PROGRESS REPORT

Acknowledgements

COLLABORATOR	TITLE	AGENCY/ ORGANIZATION
Deborah Hall	Deputy County Administrator	Charles County Government
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Shane Johnston	Natural Resources Planner	Maryland Park Service
Dixie Henry	Preservation Officer	Maryland Historical Trust
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