

Appendix H.
Public Meetings and Comments
February 20, 2007 at Otter Point Creek
February 21, 2007 at Jug Bay

Meeting Minutes

CBNERR Management Plan Informational Meetings

Anita Leight Estuary Center: Abingdon, MD

February 20th, 2007

7:00-9:00pm

Beth Ebersole Reserve Manager gave a power point presentation highlighting the management goals and the areas of focus for CBNERR. This presentation also highlighted the boundary changes through maps and a draft management plan was left at the site for review.

Questions/Comments

1. Matt Kropp (Harford County DPZ) asked the Reserve Manager to highlight major changes from the 1990 plan.

Answer: Major Changes included the boundary changes for the Reserve; better defined the goals and objectives of the reserve; includes potential facility expansion (new canoe shed, boardwalk to connect the Leight Center to the Pier property and a pavilion at the Pier property.

2. Matt Kropp (Harford County DPZ) .Are their additional areas that are being considered in this management plan for acquisition? Participant commented that the county/Reserve should look into what is occurring on a piece of property that is adjacent to the reserve and next to Home Depot. This property is primarily wetlands and currently the county is blocking permits to develop due to floodplain and wetland issues. Also, it may be worthwhile developing a partnership with the SHA on lands that they own that are adjacent to the Reserve to increase its boundaries.
3. Bernie Bodt, Isaak Walton League Member: The Reserve should be aware that there is an island in Otter Point Creek and technically within the Reserve boundaries that is privately owned. The IWLA in partnership with the Harford Land Trust has been interested for years in purchasing this land. However, have been unsuccessful because there are 30 heirs to property and the Land Trust felt that since critical area laws would prevent any development from taking place on the island it was not a high priority. The IWLA also acquired 17 acres in 2005 adjacent to the Bosely Conservancy that is upland habitat. Should this be added for consideration for boundary expansion in the next revision? Also Harford County owns a piece of property adjacent to the Reserve that is ½ wetland, ½ upland area. The upland area is going to be used as athletic fields but should the Reserve pursue adding the wetland portion to the Reserve. It should be noted that this land was originally designated by the county to be part of the Reserve but after they realized there was certain uses prohibited (athletic fields) they did not pursue the boundary expansion. Also, there is much outreach/education that

needs to be done in the community and within the county government to make sure that the continued protection of the lands occurs.

4. Ed Morgereth, Biohabitat commented that there has been a shift in the management of protected land from that of wildlife/habitat control to restoration/preservation. How is the Reserve managed and what restoration plans are planned? Reserve is managed to preserve/restore the natural processes and restoration/monitoring activities include SAV restoration and fish larval studies.

**Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve – Maryland
Public Informational Meeting, Updated Management Plan
Otter Point Creek, February 20, 2007**

SIGN-IN SHEET

NAME	AFFILIATION	E-MAIL	ADDRESS	PHONE
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Ed Margereth	Biohabitats	emargereth@biohabitats.com	2031 Clippes Point Rd Balt., MD 21211	410-554-0156

Meeting Minutes

CBNERR Management Plan Informational Meetings

Jug Bay Wildlife Sanctuary

February 21, 2007

7:00-9:00 pm

Beth Ebersole Reserve Manager gave a power point presentation highlighting the management goals and the areas of focus for CBNERR. This presentation also highlighted the boundary changes through maps and a draft management plan was left at the Jug Bay and Patuxent River Park for review.

Questions/Comments

Marie McGlone, Friends of Croom: Represents a citizen group from PG County and expressed concerns by her group of fragmentation of key ecological areas along the Patuxent River. Highlighted a 200 acre parcel along Croom Rd and Croom Station Rd that the state may be in negotiations in partnership with PG county to buy from developers, she requested that Reserve might be able to follow up on the status of this. Greg Lewis site manager of PRP agreed to follow up on this. Suggested that the Reserve work more actively on the PG county side to acquire land to expand the boundary of the Reserve in the next 5 years. Also asked why the entire PRP was not a part of the Reserve system and Greg Lewis commented that this maybe possible in the next 5 years given current success and that the boundary should be expanded further south to include both sides of Mataponi Creek but that would require additional support within DNR because that includes Merkle Wildlife Management Area.

Greg Lewis: Manager PRP

With the boundary expansion in PRP of 455 acres the entire Black Walnut Creek watershed is within the reserve and this expands the potential of long-term research and monitoring.

Dennis Whigam: SERC

The scope of research should be expanded to include the impacts of climate change and the impacts of salt water intrusion on each of the individual sites. This information should through outreach be made available to the public

Al Tucker: Friends of Jug Bay

Question: Are there resources available to reach the coastal decision makers? The key focus should be to develop educational programs to reach both the public and decision makers and that the science needs to translated into a format that all can understand and respond to. The ultimate goal should be that this information will then influence behavior change.

Lindsey Funk: Staff JBWS

Commented on the need through CTP to influence behavior of citizens/decision-makers. There are many issues to focus on but could include, smart growth principals, critical area laws and designations, public transportation and the lack thereof in MD and construction practices specifically silt fences and how they are currently ineffective.

Chris Swarth: Manager JBWS

Went over the boundary expansion in detail.

Jeff Campbell: FOJB

Commented on the need for information management and that better integration of existing data needs to occur.

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Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve – Maryland
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Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary, February 21, 2007**

SIGN-IN SHEET

NAME	AFFILIATION	E-MAIL	ADDRESS	PHONE
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Peggy Brosnan	"			

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Comment SIGN-UP Sheet

ORDER	NAME	AFFILIATION	WOULD YOU LIKE TO PROVIDE A VERBAL COMMENT TONIGHT?
1.	MARIE McGLONE	FRIENDS of CROOM	YES
2.	Greg Lewis	PRP	yes
3.	Dennis Whigham	Smithsonian	Yes
4.	AL TUCKER	FOJB	Yes
5.	Lindsay Funkhouser	JBWS	Yes
6.	Chris Swarth	JBWS	Yes
7.	Jeff Campbell	citizen	Yes
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