



# Mallows Bay-Potomac River National Marine Sanctuary

http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/mallows-bay

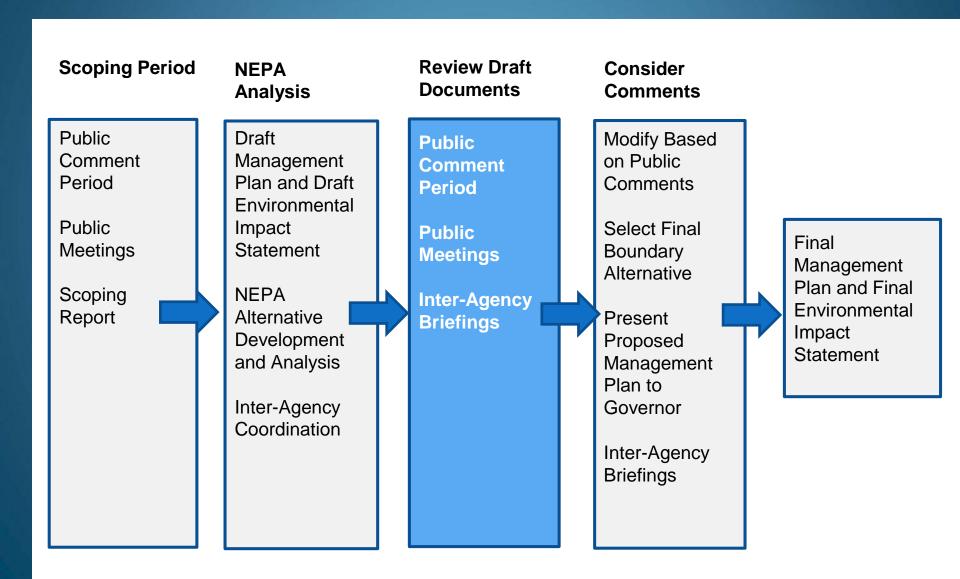


Sammy Orlando NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries





### **The Sanctuary Designation Process**



### **Input from Public Scoping**

### **Clear Public Endorsement for Sanctuary Purpose and Programs**

- Resource Protection (History and Heritage) and Interpretation
- Recreation/Tourism and Local Economic Opportunity
- Education and Public Engagement
- Science and Advanced Technologies

#### **Additional Considerations**

- Boundary Expansion
  - Include additional maritime/cultural/historic resources
  - Expand public access
  - Role of ships and maritime assets as critical habitat
- Retain Potomac River in Sanctuary name
- No adverse impact on recreational and commercial fishing
- No adverse impact on recreational fossil collection
- No adverse impact on local business and land use planning
- Support for visitor center and/or educational facility
- Designation by April 2017 to coincide with WWI Centennial



### **Draft Environmental Impact Statement**

Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration





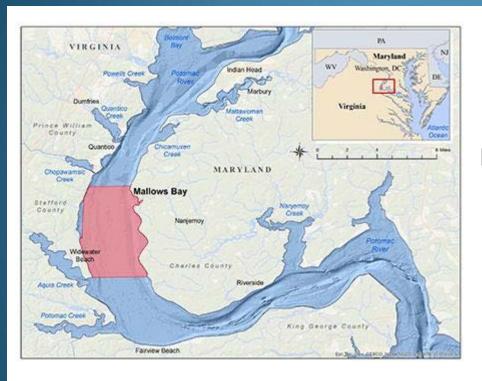
#### Proposed Mallows Bay – Potomac River National Marine Sanctuary Designation

Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Draft Management Plan



- States purpose of and need for sanctuary:
  - resource protection of maritime heritage resources
  - 2) facilitating public access
- Evaluates a range of options regulatory and non-regulatory - for achieving the purpose and need
- · Defines a preferred alternative
- Evaluates environmental and social consequences of the preferred alternative
- Provides the proposed management arrangement and priority programs

## Draft Environmental Impact Statement Alternative B





#### **Resources Present:**

- 118 WWI-era U.S. Emergency Fleet Corporation steamships;
- MD Indian Tribes heritage sites;
- Remains of historic fisheries operations such as sturgeon and caviar industries, Revolutionary and Civil War battle sites.

**Boundaries:** Boundaries coincide with the Mallows Bay Widewater Historical and Archeological National Register District

**Approximate Total Area (sq. mi.):** 18

#### **Public Access**

- 3 parks Mallows Bay Park, Purse State Park, Widewater State Park
- 6 miles of shoreline

## Draft Environmental Impact Statement Alternative C (NOAA's preferred alternative)

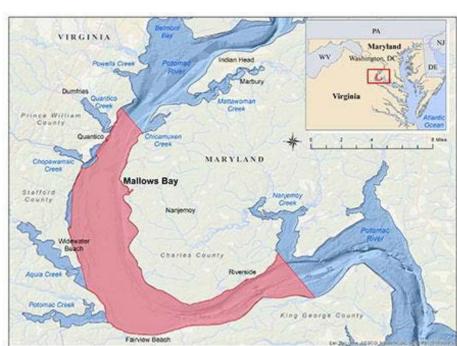
#### **Resources Present:**

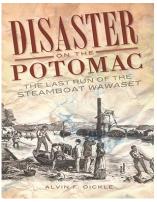
- Includes Alternative B shipwrecks plus
- 2 additional WWI steamships
- 1873 steamboat Wawaset
- Civil War Barge or canal boat, and up to 17 other historic shipwrecks found or identified in records
- Historically significant steamboat landings, ferry crossings, revolutionary war and civil war battle sites and remnants of the Potomac River's historic fishing industry

#### **Public Access:**

- 4 parks adds Caledon State Park
- 14 miles of shoreline

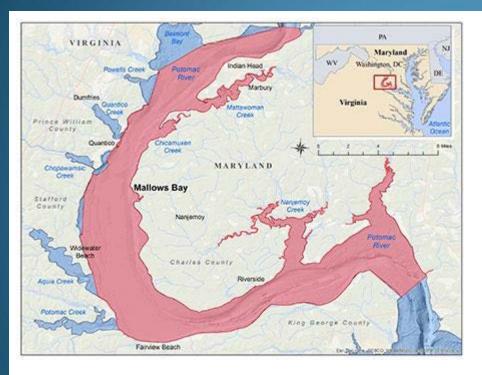
**Approximate Total Area (sq. mi.):** 52







### Draft Environmental Impact Statement Alternative D



#### **Resources Present:**

- Alternative C, plus:
- Records suggest potentially 18 additional maritime assets
- Expansion of battle sites
- Water escape route for John Wilkes Booth

#### **Public Access**

- 10 parks
- 68 miles of shoreline

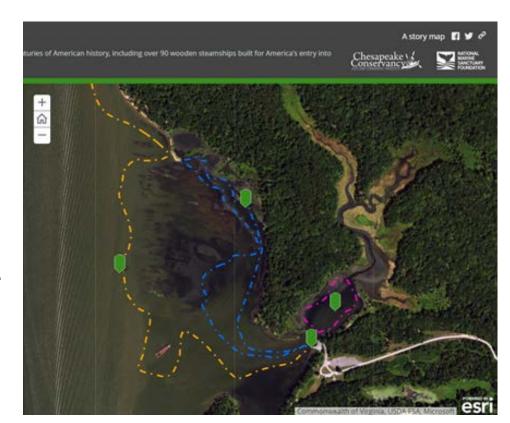
**Approximate Total Area (sq. mi.):** 100

## Tourism, Small Business and Economic Opportunity The "Thunder Bay Model"



## Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Three Regulations

- Damaging Sanctuary Resources [historic / maritime heritage]
   Prohibits moving, removing, recovering, altering, destroying, possessing, or otherwise injuring, or attempting to move, remove, recover, alter, destroy, possess or otherwise injure a sanctuary resource.
- 2. Damaging Sanctuary Signs
  Prohibits damage to sanctuary
  signs, notices, placards,
  monuments, stakes, posts,
  buoys, or boundary markers.
- 3. Interfering with Investigations
  Prohibits interfering with
  sanctuary enforcement activities.



## Draft Environmental Impact Statement Appendix A: Draft Management Plan

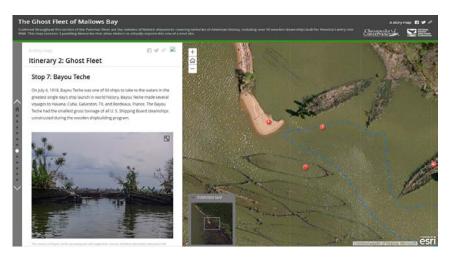
**1** Protect Maritime Heritage Resources



**3** Strengthen Educational Opportunities

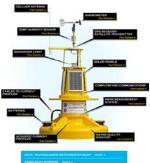


2 Enhance Recreation and Tourism



4 Promote Research, Science & Technology





## Appendix A: Draft Management Plan Sanctuary Operations: Co-Management





- Managed cooperatively by NOAA, State of Maryland and Charles County, MD
- Recreational and commercial fishing would continue, as before, through management by MD DNR and Potomac River Fisheries Commission
- All other recreational uses, including hunting, fossil collecting, birding, wildlife viewing, boating and paddling would continue, as before, through management by MD DNR or other local authorities
- Archaeological research will continue, as before, by permit from MD Historical Trust







## Appendix A: Draft Management Plan Sanctuary Operations: Sanctuary Advisory Council

### An Ongoing Partnership with the Community

- 15 members who advise the sanctuary superintendent on the operation of a national marine sanctuary.
- Members typically include conservation, fishing, recreation, education, boating and shipping, business, maritime heritage, research, and jurisdictional partners from local, regional, state, tribal, territorial and federal agencies, citizen-at-large, and/or youth









### We Want to Hear From You!

### <u>www.regulations.gov</u> NOAA-NOS-2016-0149

### NOAA is soliciting comments:

Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Draft Management Plan

**Draft Notice of Proposed Rule** 

Sanctuary Name



Public Meetings (6:00p-9:00p)

**Date**: March 7, 2017

**Location**: Charles County Government Building

**Date**: March 9, 2017

**Location**: Anne Arundel Community College

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