

Outcome: Public Access Site Development
Goal: Public Access
Outcome: By 2025, add 300 new public access sites, with a strong emphasis on providing opportunities for boating, swimming and fishing, where feasible
Long term Target: 300 x by 2025
2 year Target: 95 by 2017

Management Approach 1: Track progress towards the 300 new sites goal: At the end of each calendar year partners will compile a list of all new public access sites opened in their jurisdiction during the year. These sites will be tallied and tracked by NPS and counted towards the 300 new sites by 2025 goal.

Key Action	Performance Target(s) <i>Identify incremental steps to achieve Key Action.</i>	Participating Entity <i>Identify responsible partner for each step.</i>	Geographic Location	Factors Influencing and/or Gap <i>Identify related factor or gap in Management Strategy</i>
Report on new public access sites opened each year.	New public access sites opened in watershed with target of 20 per year.	All state and federal partners in Public Access Work Group.	Regional	Reports filed in January for the proceeding calendar year State agency partners have reported that their staffing and operational budgets have been greatly reduced and in one case operation funding beyond staff salary eliminated; thereby reducing ability to support this activity.
Total				
Identify new potential public access sites each year that would fill in system gaps and contribute towards goal.		All state and federal partners in Public Access Work Group.	Regional	Reports filed in February for the proceeding calendar year State agency partners have reported that their staffing and operational budgets have been greatly reduced and in one case operation funding beyond staff salary eliminated; thereby reducing ability to support this activity.

Management Approach 2: Make funding for public access a priority: Sustain funding for development of new public access sites and maintenance of existing sites, including maintenance dredging of small channels. Relevant state and federal funding or matching grant programs should consider targeting or giving bonus points for projects that include new public access sites. For example, the National Park Service Chesapeake Office will continue to prioritize funding for public water access site development through its financial assistance awards.

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Develop new public access sites by targeting financial assistance programs as appropriate.	Evidence of grant/financial award programs with application criteria supporting public access development.	State and federal partners who administer appropriate financial assistance awards programs (This list includes VA DCR, VA DGIF, PA DCNR, MD DNR, NPS, USFWS, WV DNR, NY DEC, DE DPR and DC DOE	Regional	State agency partners have reported that their staffing, operational budgets, and state funds for local project assistance have seen significant reductions, thereby, reducing their ability to support this activity.
	Total			
Maintain and upgrad public access sites on DoD instalations.	Maintian public access sites on DoD instalations where site security allows.	DoD	DoD Instalations where appropriate.	
	Total			
Work collaboratively with Bay Program partners to identify legislative, budgetary and policy needs to advance the goals of the Chesapeake Bay Agreement. We will, in turn, pursue action within our member state General Assemblies and the United States Congress. (Per CBC Resolution #14-1)	Work with GIT to consider policy changes or legislative actions identified by the GIT.	CBC	PA, MD, VA	Political climate and budgets
Management Approach 3: Establish a process that ensures public access is considered in the planning of all appropriate transportation projects: Many road projects across or adjacent to streams or rivers could provide public access opportunities. Where they do not yet exist, a state's recreation and resources agencies and its department of transportation (DOT) should consider establishing an MOU or other appropriate				
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Develop as needed MOU/agreements with state DOTs for public access development in conjunction with road projects.	A defined process, where one does not exist, for maximizing the development of new public access sites in harmony with road and bridge construction projects.	The state agnecies which have primary responsibility for their state's public access planning and develoment. (This includes VA DCR, VA DGIF, VDOT, MD DNR, MDOT, PA DCNR, PDOT, WV DNR, WV DOT, NY DEC, NY DOT, DE DPR and DE DOT)	Regional	
	Total			
				Total

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Management Approach 4: Enhance Public Access for a Diverse Population: As the population of the watershed grows, it becomes increasingly diverse with a population containing a broad range of ethnic, language and cultural backgrounds. As the makeup of the population changes, so has the way in which the various groups utilize and access the resource. If we are to continue to build strong support for the care and conservation of the Bay, it is important that all segments of the population have reasonable access. Actions to accomplish this include looking at gaps in types of access and how it relates to the various user populations in our urban areas. It includes looking at underserved populations and determining what may be needed to enhance their access opportunities. To be successful the Bay Program partners need to honor the culture, history and social concerns of local populations and communities and include a wide range of people and diverse groups in our decision making processes. Enhancing public access for diverse populations may also involve informational and programmatic shifts that target minority and underserved populations. This is becoming particularly true as it relates to informational signage at public access sites. Increase the effectiveness of existing public access sites by better communicating their location through improved signage and online resources. Such signage, whenever possible, should use universal symbols and be in the languages of the primary user to develop a more diverse user population.

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Improve access to and increase amount of open green space, with specific emphasis on currently underserved neighborhoods and communities	Identify new access sites to meet the needs of a diverse population (Focus areas include local and regional greenways, city parks, restored urban stream corridors and street trees and urban forests)	Greater Baltimore Wilderness coalition equity work group	Greater Baltimore area	Demand for public access in urban centers
	Increase connectedness of existing access sites, making them more accessible to urban populations	Greater Baltimore Wilderness coalition equity work group	Greater Baltimore area	
	Total			
Create a visual of current and proposed access sites and compare it to Environmental Justice Screen which is an EPA mapping tool with communities and environmental justice sites	Completion of visual evaluation tool to potentially show correlation of access to areas of potential need related to diverse communities.	This project would be accomplished through a cooperative effort involving NPS Chesapeake, Bay Program and EPA.		
	Total			

Management Approach 5: Carry out and support more detailed assessments and project design for potential sites: Most of the over 400 potential new public access sites identified in the plan require more detailed assessments and construction designs prior to implementation. Pre-planning and design of public access sites is a key step in their future development. This is an area in which funding is needed. Agencies at all levels should provide, within resource capabilities, technical assistance and funding for site analysis and design.

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Provide technical assistance in site assessment, pre-planning, project design, and compliance/permitting to local access site development partners	Within resource limitations, federal and state staff provide assistance to local partners when opportunities are identified.	All state and federal partners that are involved with the Public Access Working Group	Regional	State agency partners report that their staffing and operational budgets have been greatly reduced and in one case eliminated; therefore support for this activity has been significantly reduced.
	Total			
Total				

Management Approach 6: Fill strategic gaps in access along water trails: NPS will work with partners to identify, prioritize and develop sites that fill public access gaps along the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail, Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail, Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail and recognized water trails throughout the watershed. This will also include efforts to find and develop sites to support boat-in primitive camping along the trails.

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Develop new public access sites that fill gaps and support boat-in primitive camping along the trails by targeting financial assistance programs as appropriate.	Evidence of grant/financial award programs with application criteria supporting public access development projects that fill gaps and support boat-in primitive camping along the trails.	State and federal partners who administer appropriate financial assistance awards programs (This list includes VA DCR, VA DGIF, PA DCNR, MD DNR, NPS, USFWS, WV DNR, NY DEC, DE DPR and DC DOE)	Regional	Several state agency partners report that their state appropriated grant budgets have been zereod out; therefore there are greatly reduced funds in place to support financial assistance programs.
Total				
Develop new public access sites that fill gaps and support boat-in primitive camping along the trails. Target Youth Conservation Corps to implement smaller projects as appropriate.	Evidence of appropriately directed YCC projects, within the overall program scope of work, that support public access development projects that fill gaps and support boat-in primitive camping along the trails.	State partners who administer appropriate Youth Conservation Corps programs.	Regional	Funding by both federal and state agencies is dependent on appropriations and subject to change yearly.
	Public access site development objectives are incorporated into CAJO Segment Implementation Plans as these plans are developed to assist in strategic public access development in devleopment of the trails.	NPS - Chesapeake	Regional	
Total				

Management Approach 7: Further examine urban public access issues and needs: Recognizing the complex factors associated with expanding access in urban communities, governments at the local, state and federal levels should support and pursue studies assessing specific urban access issues and needs.

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			Total	
			Total	

Management Approach 8: Work with private sector funders to develop access: Many companies and foundations often have objectives that can be advanced through partnerships to develop public access sites and facilities. Public access managers and advocates should actively work with private sector funders on access projects.

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Management Approach 9: Engage in hydropower relicensing processes to expand public access: Relicensing of existing hydropower projects provides significant opportunities for expanding access to the water. Local, state and federal agencies should participate in re-licensing processes to make the case for specific public access projects as a part of new license agreements.

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State agency partners will be involved in any major hydro project relicensing when they occur in their state. Specific actions can be identified in future plans as appropriate.				
			Total	
			Total	

Management Approach 10: Explore options for resolving railroad crossing liability: Railroads along rivers—and associated liability concerns over track crossings—limit water access. Some states have indemnified railroads from liability at at-grade crossings for public access purposes, but it is suggested that federal action to limit liability may be needed to address the railroad companies' concerns.

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Management Approach 11: Explore potential for additional access on public lands: Management objectives and practices on public lands may not account for recent changes in access needs and opportunities. As circumstances permit, managers of public lands fronting streams and rivers should re-evaluate these lands' public access potential. This can occur through regular master planning processes or as ad hoc assessments. When new opportunities are identified they should be included in the properties' master plan and scheduled for development as soon as resources allow.

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As a part of on going planning and update cycles agency partners will evaluate the potential of additional public access opportunities on lands under their control. When site master plans or resource management plans are updated, the potential for additional public access will be evaluated and included in the new plans as appropriate. Federal and state agency partners in the water shed. Region Opportunities will be ongoing through 2017 within agencies's resource, funding and management constraints. Absorbed as part of agency operation costs. N/A Planning is contingent on scheduled review cycles as well as staff limitations and funding.				
			Total	
			Total	

Management Approach 12: Managing land control for water access using various instruments: Gaining control of water access sites can be accomplished using several "land or site acquisition" techniques or instruments. Land control can be achieved through fee simple acquisition of the land, recreational easements, leases and cooperative agreements. Even when sites are purchased in fee simple caution must be exercised to be sure the property does not contain restrictions that could make it difficult to achieve its intended use. Easements, leases and agreements should clearly state the uses that will be allowed and provided for on the property. In addition, they must clearly state the terms of use.

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Management Approach 13: Prevent loss of access on public rights-of-way: Over the course of many decades roads leading to the water's edge for uses such as steamboat docks, ferries or for other reasons have been abandoned as a part of the road system when newer facilitates/infrastructure was developed. Many of these rights-of-way over time have been taken over by neighboring property owners or simply abandoned. It is important that each jurisdiction maintain control of such roads and rights-of-way since they can provide public access. Where clear legal grounds exist, those that may have been lost to other uses should be reclaimed.

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Management Approach 14: Incorporate identified proposed public access sites and actions in key plans: Elements of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Public Access Plan, including potential new public access sites and key actions, should be incorporated as appropriate into major state and local outdoor recreation and open space planning documents, such as Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans (SCORPs) and local land use plans. Local units of government are encouraged to incorporate potential new public access sites and policies in local comprehensive and capital improvement plans

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			Total

			Total

Management Approach 15: Climate Change: As we move toward achieving the Chesapeake Bay Public Access goal we must identify how planning and implementation can be adapted to address climate change and sea level rise projections

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Management Approach 16: Fully address accessibility at public access sites: Public access sites are subject to federal and state standards and guidelines for ensuring access by a population with diverse physical capabilities. Yet it is not always clear how some of these guidelines may apply, particularly to boating access sites. NPS should work with its partners to clarify approaches to addressing accessibility needs

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Establish as a condition of financial assistance awards, the development of new public access sites in compliance with accessibility standards and guidelines to ensure access by a population with diverse physical capabilities.	Evidence of grant/financial award programs with requirement of compliance with accessibility standards and guidelines to ensure access by a population with diverse physical capabilities.	NPS- Chesapeake and financial assistance recipient(s).	Regional	
Total				

				Total

Management Approach 17: Build opportunities for citizen stewardship- Many public access sites are remote from regular maintenance staffs. Communities, user organizations, water trail managers and others should work to develop volunteer citizen stewardship programs to care for and maintain specific access sites.

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			Total	
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Acronym Guide (for all workplans)

- AACC – Anne Arundel Community College
- ACFHP - Atlantic Coast Fish Habitat Partnership
- ACJV – Atlantic Coast Joint Venture
- AgNPS – AGricultural Non-Point Source Pollution Model
- Appalachian LCC - Appalachian Landscape Conservation Cooperative
- ASTSWMO – Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials
- BayFAST/CAST/MAST/VAST – Federal Assessment Scenario Tool/Chesapeake AST/Maryland AST/Virginia AST
- BDJV – Black Duck Joint Venture
- BKT – Brook trout
- BMP – Best Management Practice
- CAC – CBP Citizens’ Advisory Committee
- CAFO – Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation
- CB – Chesapeake Bay
- CBC – Chesapeake Bay Commission
- CBF – Chesapeake Bay Foundation
- CBIBS – Chesapeake Bay Interpretive Buoy System
- CBIG – Chesapeake Bay Implementation Grants
- CBP – Chesapeake Bay Program
- CBPO – Chesapeake Bay Program Office
- CBRAP – Chesapeake Bay Regulatory and Accountability Program grants
- CBSAC – Chesapeake Bay Stock Assessment Committee
- CBSSC – Chesapeake Bay Sentinel Site Cooperative
- CBT – Chesapeake Bay Trust
- CCWC – Choose Clean Water Coalition
- CEAP – Conservation Effects Assessment Project
- Chessie BIBI – Chesapeake Bay Basin-wide Index of Biotic Integrity
- CNMP – Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan
- CNU – Christopher Newport University
- CRC – Chesapeake Research Consortium
- CREP – Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
- CSN – Chesapeake Stormwater Network
- CWA – Clean Water Act
- DAT – CBP Diversity Action Team
- DC – District of Columbia
- DCNR – Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- DE – Delaware

DEP – Department of Environment
DE DNREC – Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
DNR – Department of Natural Resources
DoD – Department of Defense
DOEE – Dist. Of Columbia Department of Energy and Environment
DOF – Department of Forestry
DOT – Department of Transportation
DST – Decision support tool
DU – Ducks Unlimited
EC – Chesapeake Executive Council
EJ SCREEN – Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool
EO Strategy – Executive Order 13508 Strategy for Protecting and Restoring the Chesapeake Bay Watershed
EJ – Environmental Justice
EL – Environmental Learning
ELCSS – Environmental Literacy Challenge for Systemic Sustainability
ERP – Elizabeth River Partnership
EPA – Environmental Protection Agency
Ex Comm - Executive Committee of the Sustainable Fisheries GIT
FERC – Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
FOD – Chesapeake Bay Program Federal Office Directors
FTE – full time employee
FWG – Forest Work Group
FWS – Fish and Wildlife Service
GIS – Geographic Information System
GIT – CBP Goal Implementation Teams
GMU – George Mason University
GSA – General Services Administration
HBCUs – historically black colleges and universities
HSCD – EPA Hazardous Site Cleanup Division
HWGIT – Healthy Watershed Work Group
ICPRB – Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin
IPC – Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake
LCC – Landscape Conservation Cooperatives
LGAC – CBP Local Government Advisory Committee
LL – Local Leadership
LU – Land Use
LUWG – Land Use Work Group
MATOS - Mid-Atlantic Telemetry Observing System
MB – CBP’s Management Board
MD - Maryland
MDE – Maryland Department of Environment
MDSG – Maryland Sea Grant
MOU – Memorandum of Understanding
MSP – Math Science Partnership
MS4 – Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
MWWCOG – Metropolitan Washington Council on Governments
MWEEs – Meaningful Watershed Educational Experiences
MWS – Master Watershed Stewards
NAAQS – National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NALCC - North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative
NATA – National Air Toxics Assessment

NCBO – NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office
NGO – Non-government organization
NEIEN – National Environmental Information Exchange Network
NERR – Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve
NFWF – National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
NOAA – National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NP – National Parks
NPDES – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRCS – Natural Resources Conservation Service
NPS – National Park Service
NYS DEC – New York State Department of Environmental Control
ODU – Old Dominion University
ORES – Oyster Reef Ecosystem Services
ORP – Oyster Recovery Partnership
OSSE – Office of the State Superintendent of Education
PA – Pennsylvania
PA DEP – Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
PCB – polychlorinated biphenyl
PMP -- Pollution Minimization Plan
PRFC – Potomac River Fisheries Commission
PSC – CBP's Principles' Staff Committee
QA – quality assurance
RFB – Riparian Forest Buffer
RMNs - Regional Monitoring Networks
SAV – Submerged Aquatic Vegetation
SERC - Smithsonian Environmental Research Center
SHWG – Stream Health Work Group
SRBC -- Susquehanna River Basin Commission
STAC – CBP Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee
STAR – CBP Scientific and Technical Assessment Research team
TCW – Toxics Contaminants Workgroup
TEA - Tidewater Ecosystem Assessment Division of MD DNR
TMDL – Total Maximum Daily Load
TNC – The Nature Conservancy
TSCA – Toxic Substance Control Act
UMBC – University of Maryland Baltimore County
UMCES – University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science
UMCES-CBL – University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science-Chesapeake Biological Lab
UMD – University of Maryland
USACE – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USDA – U.S. Department of Agriculture
USFWS – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USFS – U.S. Forest Service
USGS – U.S. Geological Survey
UVA – University of Virginia
VA – Virginia
VCU – Virginia Commonwealth University
VA CZM – Virginia Coastal Zone Management
VBOE – Virginia Board of Education
VDGIF – Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
VIMS – Virginia Institute of Marine Science

Virginia DEQ – Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

VMRC – Virginia Marine Resources Commission

WG – work group

WIP – Watershed Implementation Plan

WQN - Water Quality Network