

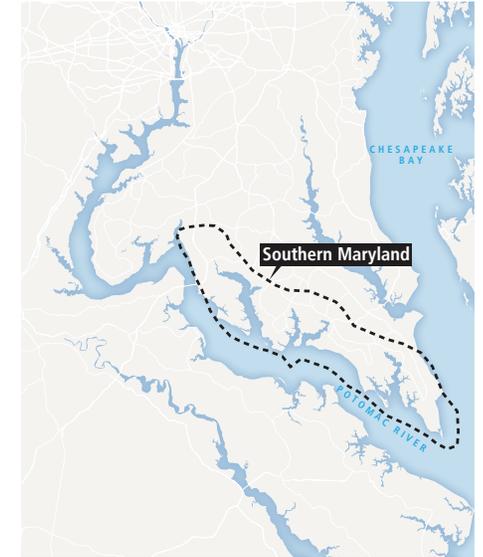
River Section 6 – Southern Maryland



Overview

This river section includes the sites and resources located east of the Highway 301 Bridge, including Zekiah Swamp Natural Environment Area to the southernmost tip of Maryland's western shore Point Lookout State Park. The area is rich in conserved natural landscapes, American Indian influence, Captain John Smith-related history, War of 1812 British Fleet activity and American defenses, and Colonial America settlement stories.

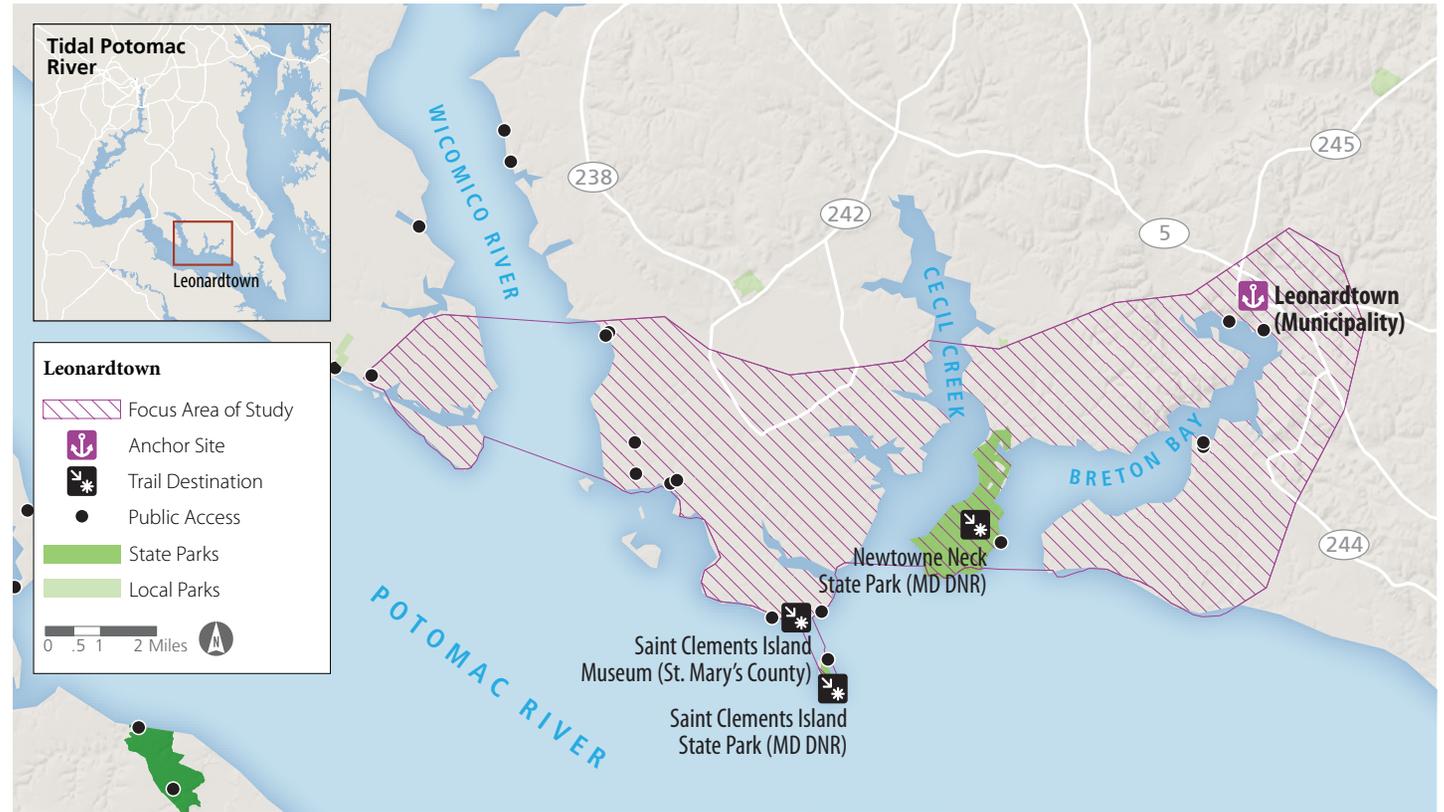
Southern Maryland is characterized by a largely rural landscape, with a matrix of forest and farmland, punctuated by some low-density development. As the DC metro region continues to expand, development is pushing southward into this region, which currently maintains its historic character. St. Mary's City and Leonardtown offer glimpses into colonial life in southern Maryland, while Point Lookout State Park and Piney Point Lighthouse, Museum and Historic Park share the stories of maritime culture. The region's rich natural resources have been preserved at Zekiah Swamp Natural Environment Area (part of a 65,000 acre greenway running through Charles County) and St. Inigoes State Forest – both reveal historical tales dating to the early 1600s.



This page: Tidal Marsh
(photo credit: Deanna Beacham)

Facilities within this river section include:

- Point Lookout State Park (MD DNR)
- Town of Leonardtown (waterfront community and parks)
- Historic St. Mary's City Museum (Historic St. Mary's City Commission/ HSMCC)
- Chancellor's Point Natural History Area (HSMCC)
- Port of Leonardtown Public Park (Town of Leonardtown)
- St. Clement's Island State Park (MD DNR)
- St. Clement's Island Museum (St. Mary's County Museum Division)
- Newtowne Neck State Park (MD DNR)
- Piney Point Lighthouse, Museum and Historic Park (St. Mary's County Museum Division)
- Zekiah Swamp Natural Environmental Area (MD DNR)
- St. Ingoes State Forest (MD Forest Service)
- St. Ingoes Landing (St. Mary's County Recreation and Parks)



Trail Components

The following trail components have been identified to support strategic planning within this river section. The two focus areas described below each contain one anchor site; these sites are viewed as first tier locations for trail development efforts as they already contain significant visitor support facilities. The next level of development would include additional trail components such as destinations, linking routes and trail towns; enhancements would occur as resources and opportunities become available.

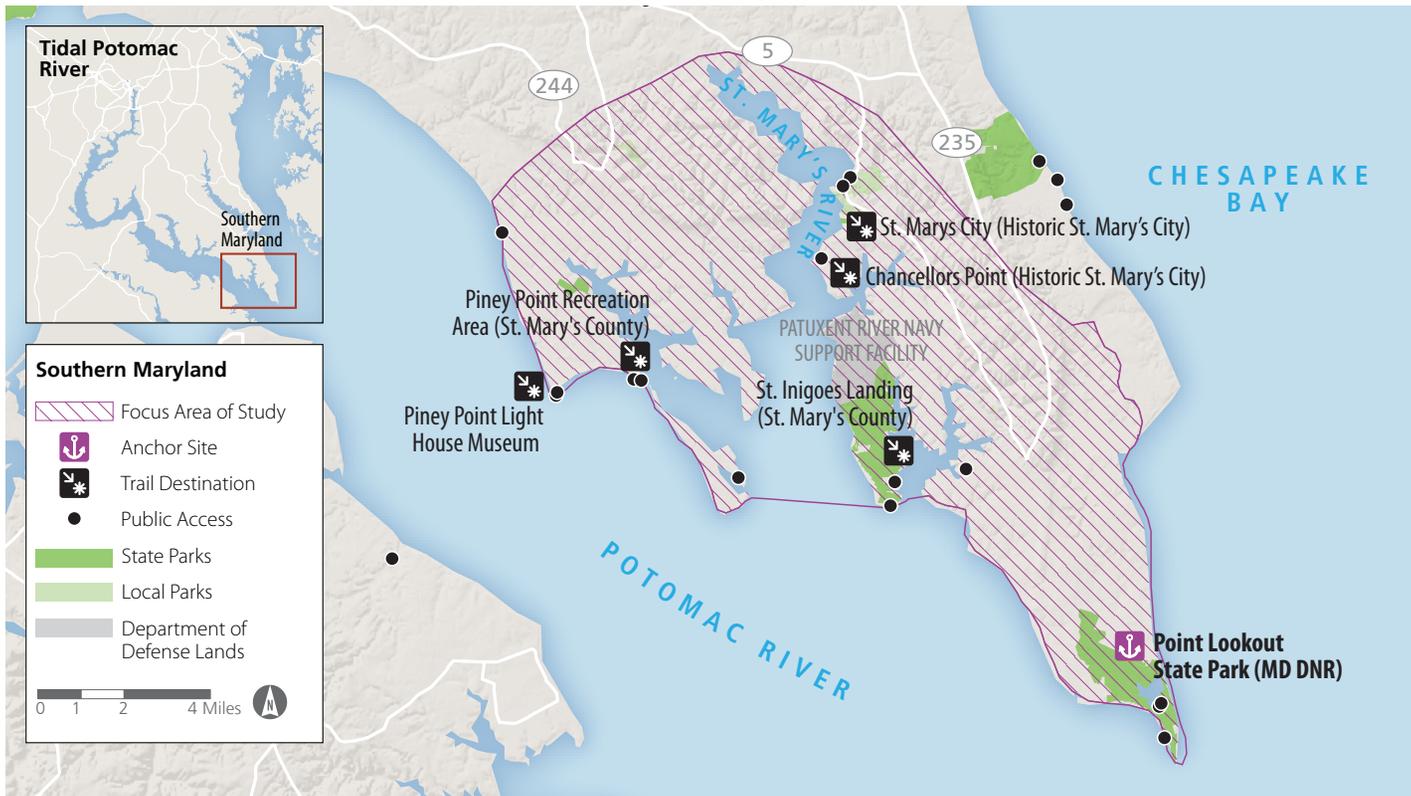
Focus Areas

- **Focus Area #1:** St. Clements Island State Park to Leonardtown
- **Focus Area #2:** Piney Point Lighthouse Museum & Historic Park to Point Lookout State Park

Anchor Sites

For Focus Area #1, the proposed anchor site is Leonardtown.

- **Leonardtown** downtown area and waterfront (Town of Leonardtown) offers a variety of cultural and recreational opportunities, including a self-guided walking tour (with an associated brochure and a podcast), a geocache trail, waterfront parks and a winery. A three-mile water trail extends from one waterfront park to another; canoe/kayak rentals and a shuttle service are available locally. Picnic shelters, galleries, retail shops and an array of restaurants are available.



Anchor Sites (continued)

For Focus Area #2, the proposed anchor site is Point Lookout State Park.

- **Point Lookout State Park** (DNR) offers a wide variety of recreational opportunities including camping, boating, fishing, hiking and picnicking. The park features a boat launch, boat rentals, a camping area, camp store, hiking trails, hunting areas, a swimming beach, picnic areas, a museum and a staffed visitor center.

Trail Destinations

- Point Lookout Lighthouse and Civil War Museum; St. Mary's City Historic Park; Chancellor's Point Natural History Area; Port of Leonardtown Public Park; St. Clements Island State Park; St. Clements Island Museum; Newtowne Neck State Park; Straits Point Park/St. George Beach (boat launch along route 249 under bridge to St. George Island); Piney Point Lighthouse, Museum and Historic Park; St. Inigoes State

Forest; St. Inigoes Landing; Point Lookout Confederate Cemetery; St. Francis Xavier Church; Tudor Hall

Linking Routes

- The Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail has identified a biking trail (Southern Maryland Tidewater Potomac Heritage Bicycle Route) and a hiking trail (Southern Maryland) that provide a connection to significant sites and communities within the region. These primarily follow highways and local roads and connect to trail networks in adjacent river sections.
- Three Notch Trail is a non-motorized asphalt trail that is constructed on County railroad right-of-way. Presently, four completed phases exist and five additional phases are planned to provide a 10'-wide hiking and biking trail connection. When completed, the trail will link the developed and rural areas from southern Charles County (Hughesville, MD) to the Patuxent River Naval Air Station at Lexington Park, MD in Saint Mary's County.

Top: Beach at Point Lookout State Park (photo credit: Bethesda magazine website)

Bottom: Leonardtown Wharf Park (photo credit: NPS archive)



Top: Beach at Chancellor's Point along the St. Mary's River (photo credit: NPS Chesapeake Bay Office)

Bottom: Piney Point Lighthouse (photo credit: NPS archive)

Other trails or connecting routes within the region include:

- Religious Freedom National Scenic Byway (200 miles from Port Tobacco to Point Lookout)
- John Wilkes Booth Trail
- The Southern Maryland Arts, Culture and Agricultural trails
- Maryland Indian Heritage Trail (under development)
- Water Trails: Western St. Mary's Water Trail; Leonardtown Water Trail and Winery; Point Lookout Water Trail
- St. Clements Island Museum and St. Clements Island are both within easy access to the Newtowne Neck property (to the south) and Cobb Island (to the north); one or both sites could help bridge a continuous water trail along the Potomac
- St. Clements Island Water Taxi (pedestrian only, seasonal operation)

Note: Public transit options are limited to commuter bus service to/from the Washington, D.C. Metro area; there are no known public bus or bike share programs in this river section.

Support Services

Leonardtown and Lexington Park have the highest concentration of commercial services in this river section. Within close proximity to many of the parks and entrances to public land units, these towns offer a variety of restaurants, retail stores, lodging establishments and gas stations.

Key Trail Stories and Associated Resources

The following key stories associated with CAJO, STSP and POHE themes are relevant to the various trail components in this river section:



Captain John Smith Chesapeake NHT

(Smith's explorations, American Indian cultures, natural history of Bay)

- Many stories regarding Indigenous American Indians in the area, including the Chaptico and many others, could potentially be used to interpret the history of the land and cultures many years before John Smith arrived.
- Smith and his crew spent about a month exploring the Potomac ("the River Patowomeck"). Smith reported seeing no native inhabitants for the first thirty miles. (Later explorers met the Yaocomaco up the St. Mary's River.)

- Smith mapped St. Clements Bay and noted (but did not discuss in his writings) one Indian town on the north side of the river.
- On his 1612 map, Smith identified today's Point Lookout as Sparkes Point, presumably after his 1624 publisher, Michael Sparkes. [Adapted from Haile]
- Publication of Smith's map drew settlers to the Chesapeake and, in particular, the Potomac River. In 1634, Governor Leonard Calvert landed in Southern Maryland on the "Ark" and the "Dove". After being warned that the Piscataway, further up the Potomac, would not be hospitable to him and his crew he chose to settle up the St. Mary's River where the Yaocomaco Indians lived. Calvert exchanged goods for land that became St. Mary's City, the fourth permanent settlement in British North America.
- Like other upriver tribes, the Yaocomaco probably collected oysters and fish at the mouth of the river, working from seasonal camps.
- Recent archaeological findings of remains of pottery mixed with glass trade beads, arrowheads fashioned from English brass, gun parts and a silver belt hanger for an English sword have revealed the location of Zekiah Fort, located in the Zekiah Swamp between the Port Tobacco and Wicomico Rivers. The Piscataway and other Southern Maryland tribes had been plagued by Iroquoian-speaking raiders from Pennsylvania and New York. They quickly saw that the English newcomers and their guns might help them fend off their enemies, who bore French arms. The Piscataways left the fort in 1692. Some remained in Maryland, while others dispersed into Virginia and Pennsylvania. The existence of the fort, the complex diplomacy, skirmishes and killings in the area during the years the Piscataways sheltered there — including one atrocity involving George Washington's grandfather — are known from Colonial records.
- In 2011, archaeologists from St. Mary's College of Maryland, in partnership with the College of Southern Maryland and local businessman Michael Sullivan, found the Piscataway Indian Fort (Zekiah Fort) in Zekiah Swamp.
- Newtowne Neck was home to Piscataway Indians prior to colonization. It ultimately became the second colonial settlement in Maryland, after St. Mary's City.

Features that support these stories include: evocative landscapes; Zekiah Swamp Natural Environmental Area, American Indian archeological findings ; Point Lookout State Park; St. Inigoes State Forest; Newtowne Neck State Park; St. Clements Island; Western St. Mary's County Water Trail system (with portions along the Wicomico River and Breton Bay)



Star-Spangled Banner NHT

(military events, individual contributors, Bay region as hub, icons of war)

- During the war of 1812, Point Lookout served as an observation post to monitor British activity on the Bay and was also the site of a British encampment.
- About 1,500 British soldiers attacked Leonardtown, the St. Mary's County seat, on July 19, 1814. Advancing from the east, west, and by water – landing at the Leonardtown Wharf – the British took the town without opposition.
- During a British raid in Chaptico, the Christ Episcopal Church organ was smashed and grave vaults were desecrated. The church was built in the 1730s and several members of Francis Scott Key's family are buried there.
- To distract Americans during the raid of Washington DC, the British fleet executed maneuvers around St. Clements Island. Additional British fleet activity during this time included the occupation of islands near Piney Point, including St. George's Island. During the War, the US Navy established an observation post at St. Ignatius Catholic Church-St. Thomas Manor, which is located on a hill at Chapel Point overlooking the confluence of the Port Tobacco and the Potomac Rivers. This strategic location allowed citizens to see the British squadron as they advanced up the Potomac in August 1814 to threaten Alexandria, VA.

Features that support these stories include: Point Lookout State Park; Leonardtown Public Wharf Park; Christ Episcopal Church in Chaptico; St. Ignatius Catholic Church (the oldest continuously active Catholic parish in America with one of America's oldest cemeteries); St. Thomas Manor (a Jesuit residence); Chapel Point State Park.



Potomac Heritage NST

(meeting ground of conservation ideas and practices, five physiographic regions, crossroads of opportunity, development of U.S. Republic)

- St. Mary's City was the fourth permanent settlement in British North America. It is often referred to as "the birthplace of religious freedom," as the colony passed the Maryland Toleration Act of 1649.
- Point Lookout was included in King Charles I's grant to George Calvert, Lord Baltimore. Calvert's younger son, Leonard (Maryland's first governor), claimed the Point for his personal manor in 1634.
- In the late 17th and early 18th centuries, a sophisticated plantation society developed in what became Southern Maryland and the Northern Neck of Virginia. In Maryland, the Brents and Lancasters put down deep roots that endure today.
- The Point Lookout Lighthouse was constructed in 1830 and still stands today, though it is no longer in use.
- During the Civil War, Point Lookout Hammond Hospital was constructed at the tip of the point after General George B. McClellan's unsuccessful campaign to capture Richmond. After the Battle of Gettysburg, a prisoner of war camp was established at the site. The site once served as a prison camp, housing more than 52,000 Confederate soldiers during the Civil War. Over 4,000 imprisoned Confederate soldiers died there, due to exposure, disease and starvation. Federal Army units serving as guards at the site included African-American soldiers of the U.S.C.T. Regiments (United States Colored Troops). After the war, the facilities were quickly dismantled.
- In the 1700s, Leonardtown served as a place where local residents conducted official colonial business and shipped farm products through the port. During the Civil War era, the town continued to be a center of commerce with its busy port and steamboat landings.
- Zekiah Swamp is considered one of the most significant ecological areas in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. It is the primary headwaters of the Wicomico River and the largest hardwood swamp in Maryland. It is thought to have significant cultural importance to Indigenous American Indians and was used as a retreat for Lord Baltimore in the late 17th century.

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Top: Potomac Beach in Southern Maryland (photo credit: NPS archive)



Potomac Heritage NST (continued)

(meeting ground of conservation ideas and practices, five physiographic regions, crossroads of opportunity, development of U.S. Republic)

- Newtowne Neck is an early Jesuit farm and site of a 1662 chapel, the oldest continually used cemetery in Maryland, and the oldest frame Catholic church in Maryland (St. Francis Xavier, 1731). It is also the location of an impressive 1789 century brick manor house. During WWII, Newtowne Neck was leased from the Jesuits by the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab. It was known as the Newtowne Neck Proving Ground and was used for the testing and development of the highly classified proximity fuse. This was a very important innovation that helped win the War. Most of Newtowne Neck was sold to the State by the Jesuits and is now known as Newtowne Neck State Park (one of the Province Properties).
- In the late 17th century, the Yaocomaco sold their land to the Maryland Colony and moved across the Potomac to what is now known as the Yeocomico River.
- In 1680, the Piscataway moved to Zekiah Manor for protection from raids by northern Indian groups and English encroachment by Charles Calvert. There, they built a fort surrounded by small communities. Archaeologists estimate that between 90 and 300 Indians lived in the vicinity until the mid-1690s.

- Various stories related to Webster Field, located on present-day Naval Air Station Patuxent River, include:
 - The Jesuits were significant in the founding of the MD colony, and St. Inigoes Manor was the home farm where the Jesuits built a succession of manor houses, beginning in the 1630s with St. Inigoes House. The Jesuits' occupation is evident through numerous important archaeological sites (on the base) including cemeteries, slave sites, tenant sites, manor house sites and a chapel site. Numerous National Register-eligible historic archaeological sites exist here, including American Indian archaeological sites, an archaeological site dating from the Late Archaic to the Late Woodland (possibly Contact Period), and early-17th through mid-20th century sites associated with the 300-year-long ownership of the property by the Jesuits.
 - Part of Webster Field is an area historically known as Fort Point, believed to be the site of the Maryland colony's 17th century St. Inigoes Fort. In the 19th century, a number of 17th-century cannons were removed from just offshore in the St. Mary's River.
 - The third St. Inigoes Manor house (built ca. 1750) stood on Priest Point during the War of 1812. It was looted in 1814 by the British in a well-documented raid. Portions of the house still survive as ruins on Webster Field.
 - Webster Field was built during WWII as an outlying field to NAS Patuxent River. Webster Field has a National Register-eligible historic district composed of Navy buildings and structures where significant defense activities were carried out during the Cold War Period.
 - The British raided St. George's Island, which is just across St. Mary's River from Webster Field, during the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. During WWII, the Navy built the Torpedo Test Range at Piney Point. Some of the houses and buildings remain, and the site is now largely occupied by the Paul Hall Center (Seafarers Union School) and the Petroleum Tank Farm (Steuart or Mirant) where the airfield still exists.

Features that support these stories include: St. Mary's City; Point Lookout State Park and Point Lookout Lighthouse; the site of Point Lookout Hammond Hospital; Leonardtown Public Wharf Park; St. Inigoes State Forest; Zekiah Swamp (not actively managed for recreation)

Top: Newtowne Neck State Park (photo credit: MD DNR)

Bottom: St. Clement's Island (photo credit: NPS archive)

Proposed Trail Enhancements and Implementation Strategies

In addition to the cross cutting strategies which apply to all river sections, this river section provides or has near-term potential to provide a wide variety of desired visitor experiences for different types of trail users. Providing optimal trail-related visitor experiences in a way that highlights this area's resources, primary features and key stories could best be achieved as follows:

Site	Trail Component	Action	Description
Focus Area #1 - St. Clements Island to Leonardtown			
Point Lookout State Park	 Anchor Site	Enhance Interpretive Signage	An existing STSP sign is located on site and a CAJO sign is planned for installation. Inclusion of a POHE sign panel, specifically describing the military history of the site, could be considered. Trail wayfinding could be incorporated into the potential installation to show each of the parks in this river section, giving context to how the individual sites fit into the larger stories of CAJO, STSP and POHE, as well as referring visitors to additional significant sites in the area.
		Develop Stories Related to the Trails	Many existing water trails are already utilized by the general public, outfitters, summer camps and paddling club members via the launch sites at Point Lookout State Park. Tour guides currently providing paddling tours could incorporate CAJO, STSP and POHE stories into their trip itineraries. NPS staff could assist tour leader staff in becoming "Certified Trail Ambassadors" to ensure the trail-related information being shared is accurate and of high quality.
		Develop Boating Guide and Itineraries	This section of the Potomac can be challenging for power boaters to navigate due to shallow water, underwater obstructions and no-wake zones. A users' map and guide could be developed to assist motor boating enthusiasts in exploring specific river stretches and destinations further upstream.
		Develop Trail Itineraries	Consideration to expand or revise the existing Point Lookout self-guided walking tours and various canoe/kayak trails (approximately three miles each) to include trail-related stories could be explored.
		Develop New Trail Linkage and Interpretation	Work with MD DNR on their plans to develop a half-mile to mile-long hiking and bicycling trail from the park entrance to the end of the peninsula. Potential to include interpretive signage.
		Develop Paddle Itineraries	Itineraries could be developed or expanded for both guided and self-guided paddling trips along adjacent creeks and coves. Trail-specific information and significant sites or features along the itinerary could be incorporated into the paddling information.
		Expand Fishing Opportunities	Consideration of expanding and/or improving fishing facilities could be explored.
		Water Craft and Bike Rentals	Consideration of bike and boat rental options could be explored.
		Interpretive Opportunity	Point Lookout Park frequently hosts a living history weekend throughout the year. Tying in trail-specific themes of CAJO, STSP and POHE to the festival could bring more attention to the trail.
Historic St. Mary's City	 Trail Destination	Provide Interpretive Panels	Interpretive panels highlighting each of the parks in this river section could give context to how the individual sites fit into the larger stories of CAJO, STSP and POHE, as well as refer visitors to additional significant sites in the area. Potential also to highlight stories related to Webster Field Annex (located on present-day Naval Air Station Patuxent River) that include American Indian archaeological sites, 17th century Fort history, ruins of the third St. Inigoes Manor house (built ca. 1750), and defense related history and structures.
		Develop Trail Itineraries	Touring itineraries could be developed or expanded to help visitors reach key park sites, river access points, and other trail-related points of interest.
		Interpretive Opportunity	St. Mary's City frequently hosts school field trips and events celebrating the region's colonial history throughout the year. Tying in trail-specific themes of CAJO, STSP and POHE to the walks and any curriculum distributed to the students could bring more attention to the trail.
		New Access Site	Consideration to provide a canoe/kayak access at the sandy beach at the Dove Dock could be explored.
		Develop New Trails Brochures	Consideration to revise existing trails brochure so that it better highlights recreational opportunities and shares information on the Trails could be explored.

Site	Trail Component	Action	Description
Focus Area #1 - St. Clements Island to Leonardtown			
Chancellor's Point Natural History Area		Trail Destination	Develop Paddle Itineraries Itineraries could be developed or expanded for both guided and self-guided paddling trips along adjacent creeks and coves. Trail-specific information and significant sites or features along the itinerary could be incorporated into the paddling information.
		Provide Interpretive Panels	Interpretive panel highlighting each of the parks in this river section could give context to how the individual sites fit into the larger stories of CAJO, STSP and POHE, as well as refer visitors to additional significant sites in the area.
		Develop Primitive Camping	Consideration to incorporate water-to-land primitive campsites could be explored.
		New Access Site	Consideration to provide a canoe/kayak access could be explored.
Piney Point Lighthouse, Museum and Historic Park		Trail Destination	Provide Interpretive Panels Interpretive panel highlighting the trail in relation to each of the parks in this river section could give context to how the individual sites fit into the larger stories of CAJO, STSP and POHE, as well as refer visitors to additional significant sites in the area.
		Develop Trail Itineraries	Touring itineraries could be developed or expanded to help visitors reach key park sites, river access points, and other trail-related points of interest through a variety of media (web-based, brochures, etc.).
		Develop Primitive Camping	While St. Mary's County currently has a policy restricting overnight camping in county parks, consideration to request special-use permits or a waiver to this policy to incorporate water-to-land primitive campsites could be explored.
		Develop Paddle Itineraries	Itineraries could be developed or expanded for both guided and self-guided paddling trips along adjacent creeks and coves. Trail-specific information and significant sites or features along the itinerary could be incorporated into the paddling information.
St. George's Island		Trail Destination	Develop New Trail Linkage and Access Consideration to expand or enhance wildlife observation, trailhead access, hiking trails and fishing facilities could be explored.
St. Inigoes State Forest		Trail Destination	Provide Interpretive Panels Interpretive panels highlighting each of the parks in this river section could give context to how the individual sites fit into the larger stories of CAJO, STSP and POHE, as well as refer visitors to additional significant sites in the area. Potential also to highlight stories related to Webster Field Annex (located on present-day Naval Air Station Patuxent River) that include American Indian archaeological sites, 17th century Fort history, ruins of the third St. Inigoes Manor house (built ca. 1750), and defense-related history and structures.
		Develop Trail Itineraries	Touring itineraries could be developed or expanded to help visitors reach key park sites, river access points, and other trail-related points of interest.
		Develop Camping	Consideration to incorporate or expand water-to-land primitive, group permit-only and/or overnight car and RV campsites and related visitor facilities could be explored if determined to be feasible.
		Develop New Trail Linkage and Access	Consideration to expand or enhance wildlife observation, trailhead access, hiking trails and fishing facilities could be explored.
		Develop Paddle Itineraries	Itineraries could be developed or expanded for both guided and self-guided paddling trips along adjacent creeks and coves. Trail-specific information and significant sites or features along the itinerary could be incorporated into the paddling information.
Private outfitters		Linking Route	Connecting Trails to Other Major Properties Existing water taxi and ferry routes presently do not extend south past Mount Vernon. Consideration to add routes to additional sites such as Point Lookout could be explored.
Private Development		Linking Route	Increase Trail Visibility Work with St. Mary's County tourism officials, Chambers of Commerce, local organizations and private developers could expand visibility for the trails and interpretive programs offered at area parks. Opportunities to leverage funding for new public access projects or include physical trail enhancements (bike lanes, trail markers, signage) within infrastructure improvements necessary to accommodate the proposed development could be explored.
		Interpretive Opportunity	The existing ferry service from Point Lookout to Smith Island and Crisfield, MD (Smith Island Cruises) could be interpreted as part of POHE trail. Signage could be located at both sides of the ferry route to convey the history of the ferry and to provide information regarding other nearby trail sites. NPS staff could assist tour leader staff in becoming "Certified Trail Ambassadors" to ensure the trail-related information being shared is accurate and of high quality.

Site	Trail Component	Action	Description
Focus Area #2 - Piney Point Lighthouse Museum & Historic Park to Point Lookout State Park			
Leonardtown Waterfront	 Anchor Site	Provide Interpretive Panels	An existing STSP sign is located on waterfront. CAJO and POHE panels could be considered for installation to provide additional interpretation and orient users to the Trails in a larger context by identifying key trail spots along the Potomac River specifically within the Southern Maryland river section. The POHE panel on the exhibit could describe the tobacco heritage and agricultural history of the site.
		Develop Stories Related to the Trails	Private outfitters currently offer boating and paddling tours along the various trails in this area. NPS staff could assist the leaders of these sites/organizations to become "Certified Trail Ambassadors" to ensure the trail-related information being shared is accurate and of high quality.
		Provide Training for Watermen Tours	Explore potential to work with watermen in this area that may be interested in participating in the Watermen Heritage Tourism Training Program. Share NPS/approved written scripts to develop custom Watermen Heritage Tours if appropriate.
		Develop Trail Itineraries	Consideration to create a new Leonardtown self-guided walking tour to include trail-related stories could be explored.
		Develop New Paddling Guides	Consideration to revise the three-mile canoe/kayak trail brochure to include trail-related themes. Consider also installing informational markers along the water trail itself to share both the historical and ecological significance of the area.
		Develop New Trail Linkage and Interpretation	There have been discussions to extend the boardwalk at the waterfront to the Leonardtown Winery located a few miles away. This would present additional biking and local trail opportunities, as well. Work to support these efforts and include Trail-specific themes where applicable could be considered.
		Develop New Trail Linkage and Interpretation	Consideration of creating more off-highway bike trails, particularly around Leonardtown (specifically along the Tudor Farm property – parcel east of Wharf) may be explored.
		Expand Wildlife Viewing Opportunities	Consideration to enhance wildlife observation opportunities and related interpretive materials at Port of Leonardtown Public Park and Leonardtown Wharf Public Park could be explored.
St. Clements Island State Park and/or Museum	 Trail Destination	Provide Interpretive Panels	Interpretive panel at the St. Clements Island Museum highlighting each of the parks in this river section could give context to how the individual sites fit into the larger stories of CAJO, STSP and POHE, as well as refer visitors to additional significant sites in the area. Consider expanding signage to include the story of Chaptico.
		Develop Trail Itineraries	Touring itineraries could be developed or expanded to help visitors reach key park sites, river access points, and other trail-related points of interest.
		Develop Primitive Camping	Consideration to incorporate water-to-land primitive campsites could be explored [group, permit-only camping for groups doing service projects is currently allowed].
		New Access Site	Consideration to provide an advanced-level canoe/kayak access to St. Clements Island could be explored [currently, only a sandy beach exists for paddlers].
		Develop New Trail Linkage	Consideration to develop a formal driving tour leading from St. Clements Island Museum to the town of Chaptico and ultimately to Zekiah Swamp could be explored.
		Expand Fishing Opportunities	Consideration of expanding and/or improving fishing facilities could be explored.
		Develop New Trail Linkage	St. Clements Island Museum supports access to and interpretation of St. Clements Island and both sites are within easy access to the Newtowne Neck property to the south and Cobb Island to the north. One or both sites could help bridge a continuous trail along the Potomac.

Site	Trail Component	Action	Description	
Focus Area #2 - Piney Point Lighthouse Museum & Historic Park to Point Lookout State Park				
Newtowne Neck State Park		Trail	Interpretive panels highlighting the trail in relation to each of the parks in this river section could give context to how the individual sites fit into the larger stories of CAJO, STSP and POHE, as well as refer visitors to additional significant sites in the area. Interpretation of natural and cultural resources could also be included as appropriate.	
		Destination		
		New Access Site	Consideration to provide one or more canoe/kayak launch sites could be considered.	
		Develop Trails and Itineraries	Potential exists at this site to develop hiking trails, shoreline fishing, and swimming areas. Once realized, touring itineraries could be developed or expanded to help visitors reach key park sites, river access points, and other trail-related points of interest.	
		Develop Paddle Itineraries	Itineraries could be developed or expanded for both guided and self-guided paddling trips along adjacent creeks and coves. Trail-specific information and significant sites or features along the itinerary could be incorporated into the paddling information.	
		Develop Primitive Camping	Consideration to incorporate water-to-land primitive campsites could be explored, as staffing and funding permit.	
		Water Craft and Bike Rentals	Consideration of seasonal bike and boat rental options could be explored, as staffing and funding permit.	
Zekiah Swamp Natural Environmental Area		Trail Destination	Develop New Trail Linkage, Access, and Interpretation	Consideration to expand or enhance wildlife observation, trailhead access, hiking trails and fishing facilities could be considered. Installation of trail-specific signage could be considered if any improvements are proposed; consideration to expand signage to tell the story of Zekiah Fort.
Potomac Heritage Trail		Linking Route	Trail Linkage and Signage	Consideration to consolidate and unify the variety of different trails in this river section - specifically the signage along the roadways and sites along the highways - to offer a clear message to visitors could be explored. Civil War stories and historic slavery stories could be considered for incorporation into POHE interpretation in this section of the river.
Religious Freedom Byway		Linking Route	Trail Linkage and Signage	Consideration to consolidate and unify the variety of different trails in this river section - specifically the signage along the roadways and sites along the highways - to offer a clear message to visitors could be explored. Incorporation of action items highlighted in the Common Interpretive Strategy document published in October 2014 will be applied as appropriate.
Three Notch Trail		Linking Route	Develop New Trail Linkage and Access	Efforts to expand Three Notch Trail are currently on-going; there is a long term goal to connect to the Indian Head Rail Trail. Work to support these efforts and include Trail-specific themes where applicable could be considered.
Maryland Indian Heritage Trail		Linking Route	Develop New Trail Linkage and Access	Planning efforts to connect CAJO trail resources, specifically American Indian historic resources and present-day sites of cultural significance, to the Maryland Indian Heritage Trail should be coordinated. Inclusion of pre-Colonial or pre-history American Indian stories before John Smith's era could be interpreted through this connection.
Private Bus tours		Linking Route	Create Shuttle Service to Connect Sites	Consideration to develop a shuttle service in Southern Maryland and have local B&Bs and/or wineries - as well as significant sites in the area - serve as stops along the shuttle route could be explored.
			Water Craft and Bike Rentals	Consideration of seasonal bike and boat rental options could be explored, as staffing and funding permit.
Private Marinas		Support Services	Provide Interpretive Panels	Interpretive panels highlighting each of the parks in this river section could give context to how the individual sites fit into the larger stories of CAJO, STSP and POHE, as well as referring visitors to additional significant sites in the area. Touring itineraries could be developed or expanded to help visitors reach key park sites, river access points, and other trail-related points of interest.
			Increase Trail Visibility	Consideration to provide waterfront restaurants with trail-specific information, such as menu placemats, rack cards, or permanent signage that showcase trail-specific themes, identify the site location within the great context of the trail route and highlight significant trail sites in the area could be explored.
			Expand Outfitters	Opportunities to offer or expand boat, canoe and kayak rentals could be considered.
Private Campgrounds		Support Services	Develop Camping	Consideration to incorporate or expand water-to-land primitive, group permit-only and overnight car and RV campsites and related visitor facilities could be explored at private marinas such as Dennis Point Marina and Campground, Camp Merrylande, Camp Riverview -(Scotland, MD), Seaside View Recreation Park, Cedar Point (Morgantown, MD), Swan Point (near Swan Point Golf Course), Camp St. Charles and St. Catherine's Island.