



Shaping a Star-Spangled Experience along the National Historic Trail

Public Input Sought on Trail Vision and Management

The Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail and Star-Spangled Banner Scenic Byway connect the places, people, and events that led to the birth of our National Anthem during the War of 1812. The Chesapeake Bay region was a center of this critical struggle between the United States and Great Britain. The trail and byway cover 300 miles of land and water routes in Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia along which the British armies and American defenders traveled and fought.

Established by Congress in May 2008, the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail is one of 26 national historic trails recognized for their historic value and their educational and recreational potential. The National Park Service (NPS) will administer the trail in partnership with public, private, and nonprofit organizations. The trail complements the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network and shares many waterways with the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail.

The Star-Spangled Banner Scenic Byway is a state-designated driving route that follows over 100 miles of the historic paths travelled by the British within Maryland.

The NPS, together with partners in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia, is developing a comprehensive management plan (CMP) that will guide development of the trail and byway over the next 20 years. The CMP planning team has developed three conceptual alternatives for future management of the trail and byway. These alternatives reflect the trail's purpose and significance, the issues and opportunities facing the trail, its legal mandates, and comments from trail partners and the public gathered during scoping workshops in November 2010 and throughout the planning process. The concepts describe alternative management objectives, policies and actions that could guide the development of the trail and byway over the next twenty years.

This newsletter provides an overview of the alternatives, which present three distinct long-term approaches to developing and managing the trail and byway. Any one, or a combination of several, could describe the most appropriate management direction for NPS and partners.



Save the Date! The Trail Needs Your Voice!

Input Sought on Trail Planning, Development, and Management

The National Park Service (NPS) in coordination with local partners will host a series of workshops to present the alternative concepts for the future development and management of the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail and Scenic Byway.

Please join us to hear information about the trail and byway and provide your input on how the routes should be developed and managed. Your involvement is essential to shaping a trail and byway that successfully commemorate the nationally significant summer 1814 Chesapeake Campaign while providing opportunities for learning, recreation, tourism, and resource protection.

For more information, please visit the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail website at www.nps.gov/stsp or call Suzanne Copping at 410.260.2476.

If you cannot attend one of the following workshops, you can comment online at: www.parkplanning.nps.gov/stsp_alts.

Monday, April 18, 2011
Bladensburg Waterfront Park
4601 Annapolis Road
Bladensburg, MD 20710
4–6pm

Tuesday, April 19, 2011
Havre de Grace Maritime Museum
100 Lafayette Street
Havre de Grace, MD 21078
4–6 pm

Wednesday, April 20, 2011
Creative Alliance @ The Patterson
3134 Eastern Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21224
4–6 pm

Thursday, April 21, 2011
King's Landing Park
3255 King's Landing Road
Huntingtown, MD 20639
6–8 pm

Wednesday, April 20, 2011
Webinar for Virginia Stakeholders
10–11:30 am
For call-in information, RSVP to suzanne_copping@nps.gov or call 410.260.2476

Or, a comment card can be downloaded from www.nps.gov/stsp (click on Park Management and then Park Planning). Complete the card and mail it back to us at:

Star-Spangled Banner NHT
National Park Service Chesapeake Bay Office
410 Severn Avenue, Suite 314
Annapolis, MD 21403

What are National Historic Trails?

National historic trails follow and commemorate routes of exploration, migration, trade, communication, or military action. These routes are recognized by Congress for their nationally significant stories, modern-day integrity, and recreation potential. Trails link structures and landscapes through auto routes, off-road trails, and waterways. They provide for interpretation and resource protection, promote outdoor recreation, and encourage citizen engagement.

What are National Scenic Byways?

National Scenic Byways are transportation corridors recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Transportation as having outstanding scenic qualities ranging from picturesque farms to city skylines. Byways must also contain nationally distinct historical, archaeological, ethnographic, natural, or cultural resources or character. For more information, visit www.byways.org.

What is a Comprehensive Management Plan/Environmental Assessment (CMP/EA)

A CMP/EA establishes the goals, guidelines, and actions needed to build and manage a national historic trail. The plan outlines a wide range of partnership activities that will build and maintain the trail, including strategies to increase public appreciation of its historic and natural resources.

The CMP/EA for the Star-Spangled Banner Trail and Byway will include the following:

- Management objectives and practices
- Inventory and assessment of resources and intrinsic qualities
- Map showing resources, intrinsic qualities and land uses
- Trail and byway marking and signage strategy
- Maintenance, enhancement, and protection strategy
- Environmental assessment
- Implementation schedule

Since Maryland's Star-Spangled Banner Scenic Byway overlaps with the proposed land routes of the trail, the NPS will develop the plan in a way that will support Maryland's effort to seek National Scenic Byway status.

How does trail planning relate to the bicentennial of the War of 1812?

The bicentennial of the War of 1812 will take place from June 2012 to February 2015. During this period, new investments and special events around the Chesapeake Bay will raise the national and international profile of the region.

As much as possible, the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail and Star-Spangled Banner Scenic Byway will build on the attention and excitement of the bicentennial to encourage new infrastructure, resource protection, and interpretation that contributes to the long-term vision for the trail and byway. The bicentennial period and its resulting partnerships will propel the trail and byway toward a lasting legacy for both the region and the nation.



Who ensures that the management plan reflects the interests of the public and trail partners?

The *Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail Advisory Council*, comprised of representatives of federal and state agencies and public and private interests appointed by the Secretary of the Interior, advises the NPS on the development and implementation of the trail plan.

The *Scenic Byway Advisory Committee*, comprised of members of the advisory council and tourism and planning staff from each county through which the byway passes, assists with development of the byway corridor.

Information regarding advisory council and byway committee meetings will be posted on the NPS website at www.nps.gov/stsp.

Who else is providing input on the plan?

A growing list of agencies and local and regional consortiums assisting with the trail and byway is on the NPS website at www.nps.gov/stsp.





The Purposes of the Trail and the Byway

The purposes of the trail and byway are derived from enabling legislation and describe the trail and byway's aims and outcomes.

- Protect the sites, landscapes, and routes significant to understanding the people, events, and ideals associated with the War of 1812 in the Chesapeake and “The Star-Spangled Banner”
- Provide educational and interpretive opportunities related to the War of 1812 and its relevance to modern society
- Foster improved opportunities for land- and water-based recreation and heritage tourism

Interpretive Themes

Interpretive themes describe broad concepts that are expanded upon through interpretive media and services to make the trail's places, people and stories more meaningful and relevant to visitors.

- Almost thirty years after gaining independence, Americans resisted a land and water invasion by Great Britain, and military events in the Chesapeake Bay region became central to the outcomes of a broader three-year struggle that established a foundation for the United States' economic independence and military strength.
- During the War of 1812, individuals in the Chesapeake Bay region endured great political, economic and emotional upheaval and faced personal choices that profoundly impacted domestic life,

influenced the evolution of U.S. government and commerce, and had ramifications far beyond the battlefield.

- In the early 1800s, the Chesapeake Bay region – due to its central location on the eastern seaboard, network of navigable waterways, robust natural resources and fertile agricultural lands – served as a hub for trade, industry and government, making it a prime target for the British.
- The United States flag and “The Star-Spangled Banner” anthem - symbolizing the resilience of the new nation and the American character - inspired a renewed sense of nationalism in U.S. citizens after the War of 1812, and endure today as potent international icons of the United States of America.



What are the Management Alternatives under Consideration?

The NPS is exploring three alternatives for the future development of the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail and the Star-Spangled Banner Scenic Byway. Each alternative is based on a different concept that describes how resources would be managed and the experiences that visitors would have on the trail and byway.

	Alternative 1 - Continuation of Current Management	Alternative 2 - Chesapeake Campaign of Summer 1814	Alternative 3 - War of 1812 in the Chesapeake (1812-1815)
	Existing Touring and Site-seeing Activities Continue	Retracing Major 1814 Military Movements on Land and Water	Recreational Learning along the Bay's Trails and Byways
Visitor Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visitors follow a shared trail/byway land route from Solomons to North Point Existing water trails and access on the Patuxent and Potomac Rivers provide views of some War of 1812 sites Trail/byway partners are encouraged to provide 1812 interpretation independently or in collaboration with nearby partner sites Visitor orientation occurs primarily at Fort McHenry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visitors learn primarily about the military encounters of the British and Americans during the Chesapeake Campaign in summer 1814 along a shared trail/byway land route Visitors experience new interpretive media and enhanced public access as they recreate along the Patuxent and Patapsco Rivers; interpretation along the Potomac River and the Bay is limited to media that can be utilized from a water vessel Guided and self-guided interpretive media depict the military events, people and places, and untold stories that led to the writing of the Star-Spangled Banner Visitor orientation occurs primarily at Fort McHenry and at a few small contact stations in existing facilities at significant battlefield and landing sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Visitors learn about the people, places, events, and untold stories of the War of 1812 time period, the commercial and social context of the War, the War's legacy, and the Bay's natural ecology, as they explore and recreate along shared trail/byway land route Water trails provide new and enhanced interpretive media and public access beyond the extent of the Patuxent, Patapsco and Potomac Rivers to the Upper Bay, Eastern Shore, Southern Maryland, and neighboring Virginia War of 1812 Heritage Trail Guided and self-guided itineraries and other interpretive media provide new opportunities to explore the cultural and natural history of the Chesapeake Bay while recreating along intersecting hiking, biking or water trails including the Captain John Smith Chesapeake and Potomac Heritage Trails Visitor contact occurs primarily at Fort McHenry, at contact stations in regional hubs, and at facilities shared with other national historic trails
Resource Protection Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protection focuses on significant trail-related resources, landscapes and viewsheds through existing resource protection program. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protection focuses on significant resources, viewsheds and landscapes evocative of the early 19th century along the major military land and water routes of the Chesapeake Campaign of summer 1814 Limited potential for NPS financial and technical assistance through cultural resources and documentation programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protection focuses on significant resources, viewsheds and landscapes evocative of the early 19th century along land and water routes including the Potomac River, Chesapeake Bay, and existing and proposed water trails that link sites and stories from the 1812-1815 time period Limited potential for NPS financial and technical assistance through cultural and natural resources, recreation, and collaborative conservation programs
Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnerships focus on developing new products and programs that support trail/byway interpretive themes and link sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnerships emphasize resource preservation and new and enhanced interpretation associated with the Chesapeake Campaign of summer 1814 and improved public access A non-profit friends organization facilitates protection and interpretation of trail-related resources and landscapes Limited NPS technical and financial assistance to coordinate local and regional preservation and interpretation efforts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnerships emphasize integration of regional trail planning efforts that provide recreational experiences and enhance visitor understanding and appreciation of the Chesapeake Bay A non-profit friends organization facilitates expansion of recreation opportunities and public access, land protection, and integration of related history and recreation initiatives, including national trails Limited NPS technical and financial assistance to coordinate regional efforts relative to recreation, landscape protection, interpretation, and heritage tourism

Alternative 1 – Continuation of Current Management

Focal Areas for Star-Spangled Banner Trail/Byway Experiences

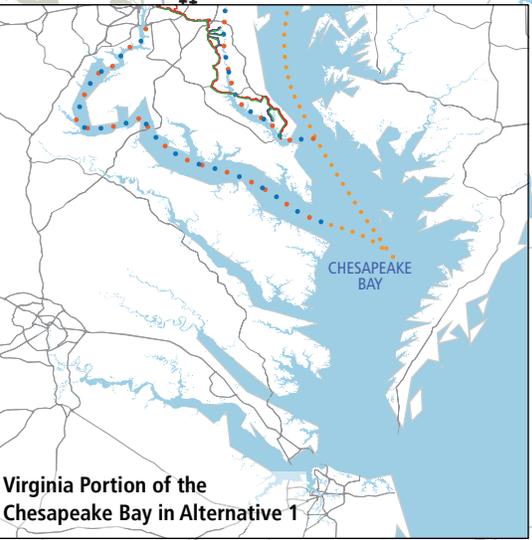
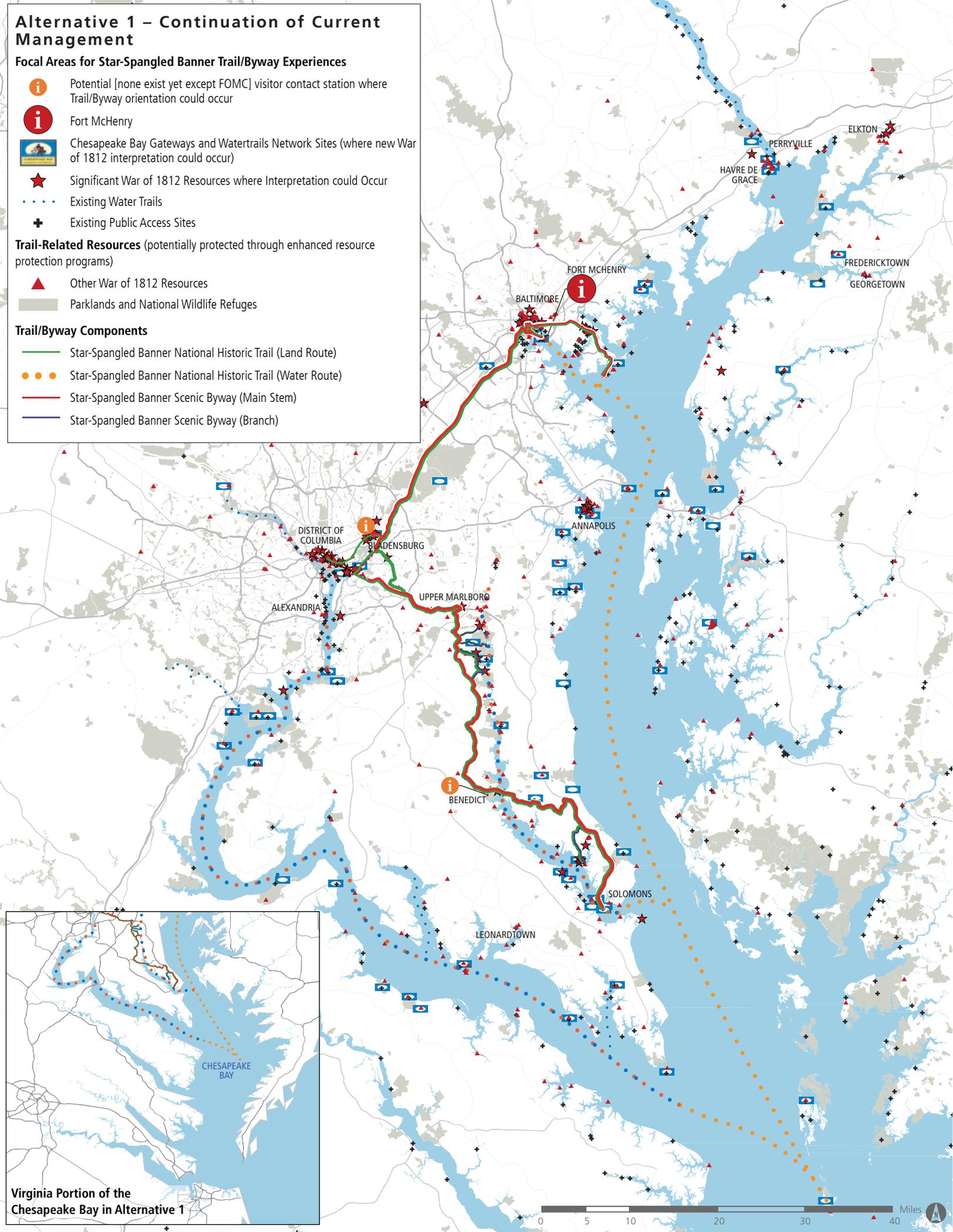
-  Potential [none exist yet except FOMC] visitor contact station where Trail/Byway orientation could occur
-  Fort McHenry
-  Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network Sites (where new War of 1812 interpretation could occur)
-  Significant War of 1812 Resources where Interpretation could Occur
-  Existing Water Trails
-  Existing Public Access Sites

Trail-Related Resources (potentially protected through enhanced resource protection programs)

-  Other War of 1812 Resources
-  Parklands and National Wildlife Refuges

Trail/Byway Components

-  Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail (Land Route)
-  Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail (Water Route)
-  Star-Spangled Banner Scenic Byway (Main Stem)
-  Star-Spangled Banner Scenic Byway (Branch)



Virginia Portion of the Chesapeake Bay in Alternative 1



Existing Touring and Site-seeing Activities Continue

- Visitors follow a shared trail/byway land route from Solomons to North Point
- Existing water trails and access on the Patuxent and Potomac Rivers provide views of some War of 1812 sites
- Trail/byway partners are encouraged to provide 1812 interpretation independently or in collaboration with nearby partner sites

Visitor Experience

Themes and Stories

Visitors learn about the military events, stories of individuals, and cultural context of the War of 1812 along the trail/byway and at individual sites.

Land- and Water-Based Experiences

Trail/byway partners along a shared trail/byway land route from Solomons to North Point are encouraged to provide War of 1812 interpretation independently or in collaboration with nearby sites.

Visitors are encouraged to use existing access along the Patuxent and Potomac Rivers to view some War of 1812 sites and landscapes from the water.

Connectivity

Trail/byway partner sites and organizations, including CBGN are encouraged to work collaboratively to strengthen physical and interpretive connections among trail resources.

Orientation

Fort McHenry is the primary trail visitor center.

Trail partners may choose to provide visitor services in existing facilities to orient visitors and provide War of 1812 interpretation.

Resource Stewardship

Trail-Related Resources, Landscapes and Viewsheds

Trail partners are encouraged to protect trail-related resources, landscapes and viewsheds through existing resource protection programs.

Partnerships

National Trails, Designated Gateways, and NPS Programs

Chesapeake Gateways partners and other national trails are encouraged to develop new products and programs that support trail/byway interpretive themes and link partner sites.

State, Local, Non-profit Partnerships

State and local trail/byway partners are encouraged to work collaboratively to implement proposed water trails, bike trails, and infrastructure and to develop new products and programs that support trail/byway interpretive themes and link sites.

Alternative 2 – Chesapeake Campaign of Summer 1814

Focal Areas for Star-Spangled Banner Trail/Byway Experiences

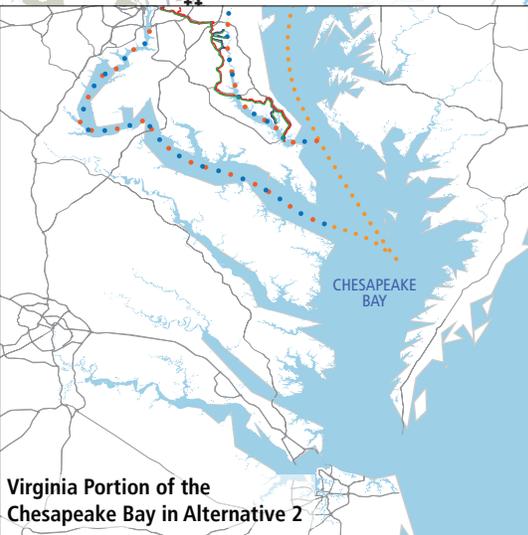
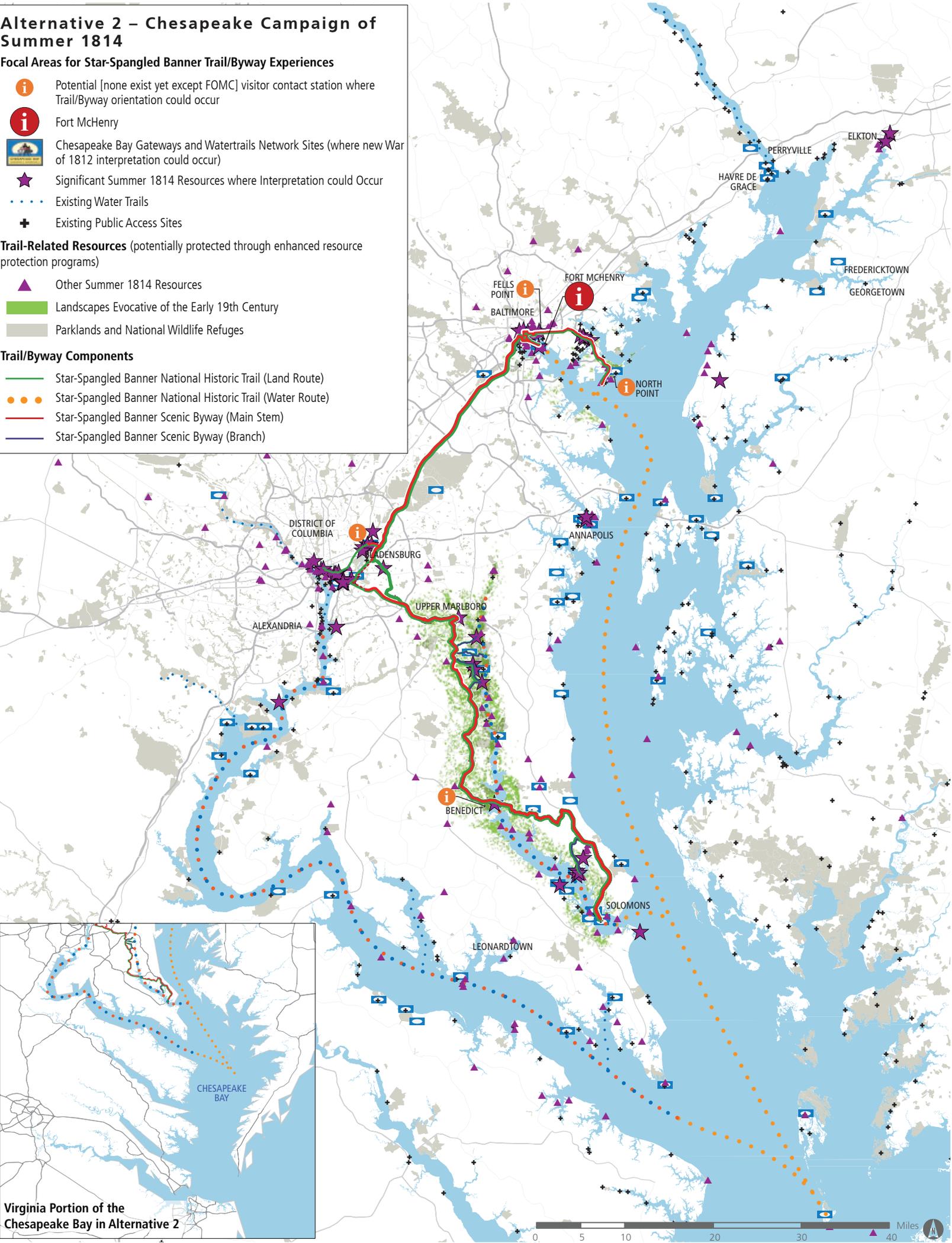
-  Potential [none exist yet except FOMC] visitor contact station where Trail/Byway orientation could occur
-  Fort McHenry
-  Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network Sites (where new War of 1812 interpretation could occur)
-  Significant Summer 1814 Resources where Interpretation could Occur
-  Existing Water Trails
-  Existing Public Access Sites

Trail-Related Resources (potentially protected through enhanced resource protection programs)

-  Other Summer 1814 Resources
-  Landscapes Evocative of the Early 19th Century
-  Parklands and National Wildlife Refuges

Trail/Byway Components

-  Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail (Land Route)
-  Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail (Water Route)
-  Star-Spangled Banner Scenic Byway (Main Stem)
-  Star-Spangled Banner Scenic Byway (Branch)



Retracing Major 1814 Military Movements on Land and Water

- Visitors learn primarily about the military encounters of the British and Americans during the Chesapeake Campaign in summer 1814 along a shared trail/byway land route
- Visitors experience new interpretive media and enhanced public access as they recreate along the Patuxent and Patapsco Rivers; interpretation along the Potomac River and the Bay is limited to media that can be utilized from a water vessel
- Guided and self-guided interpretive media depict the military events, people and places, and untold stories that led to the writing of the Star-Spangled Banner

Visitor Experience

Themes and Stories

Visitors learn primarily about the stories, places and people, and untold stories relative to the military events of Summer 1814 that led to the writing of The Star-Spangled Banner.

Interpretation places less emphasis on the natural environment of the Chesapeake Bay in 1814, the war's commercial and societal context, and the creation of national icons.

Land- and Water-Based Experiences

Visitors follow a shared trail/byway land route from Solomons to North Point where signage, itineraries and mobile media trace the military movements and events of summer 1814.

Visitors enjoy enhanced access and interpretive experiences along the Patuxent and Patapsco Rivers as they retrace summer 1814 military routes and view summer 1814 sites.

Trail orientation and interpretation along the Bay and the Potomac River are limited to:

- information on public access in the vicinity of summer 1814 event sites including Alexandria, Tangier, Caulk's Field, Caulk's Field, and Leonardtown
- interpretive media that can be utilized from a water vessel, such as a boater's guide or mobile media

Connectivity

The trail/byway land route and the trail's Patuxent and Patapsco water segments link summer 1814 resources through signage, itineraries, maps and virtual media.

Minimal connections occur through maps and virtual media between significant summer 1814 sites along the Chesapeake Bay and Potomac River.

Orientation

Fort McHenry is the primary trail visitor center.

A limited number of visitor contact stations in existing facilities are established or enhanced to provide orientation and information at significant British-American encounter sites such as Bladensburg and Benedict.

Resource Stewardship

Trail-Related Resources, Landscapes and Viewsheds

NPS works with partners and provides limited financial assistance to protect trail-related resources, landscapes and viewsheds evocative of the early 19th century along the major military travel routes of summer 1814:

- the Benedict to Bladensburg to Washington segment
- the North Point to Hampstead segment
- the Patapsco River upstream to Fort McHenry
- the Patuxent River upstream to Hills Bridge

Stewardship is focused at sites and landscapes that meet criteria developed during the management planning process.

Partnerships

National Trails, Designated Gateways, and NPS Programs

Trail/byway partners, Chesapeake Gateways partners, and other national trails collaborate on products, programs, and infrastructure where they enhance visitor understanding and appreciation of the military events of summer 1814.

Under existing authorities, NPS cultural resources programs are enlisted to assist state and local partners with documentation and protection of historic sites, battlefields, and cultural landscapes.

State, Local, Non-profit Partnerships

NPS and state and local trail/byway partners co-develop infrastructure and programming that enhances interpretation and preservation of resources associated with the Chesapeake Campaign in summer 1814.

A non-profit friends organization representing historical interpretation, historic preservation and battlefield protection interests facilitates, in coordination with the NPS, the protection and interpretation of trail-related resources and landscapes.



Alternative 3 - War of 1812 in the Chesapeake (1812 - 1815)

Focal Areas for Star-Spangled Banner Trail/Byway Experiences

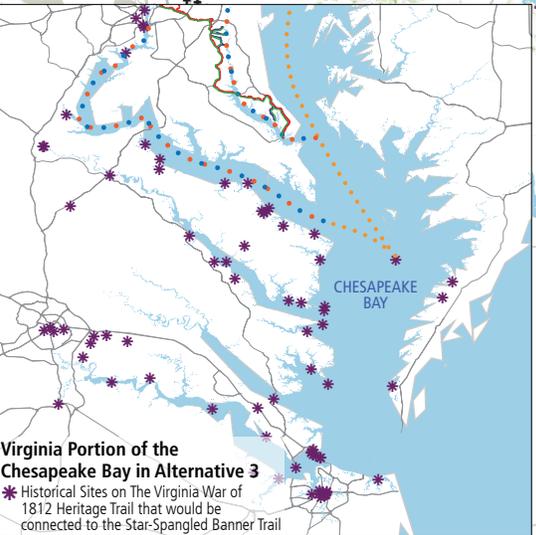
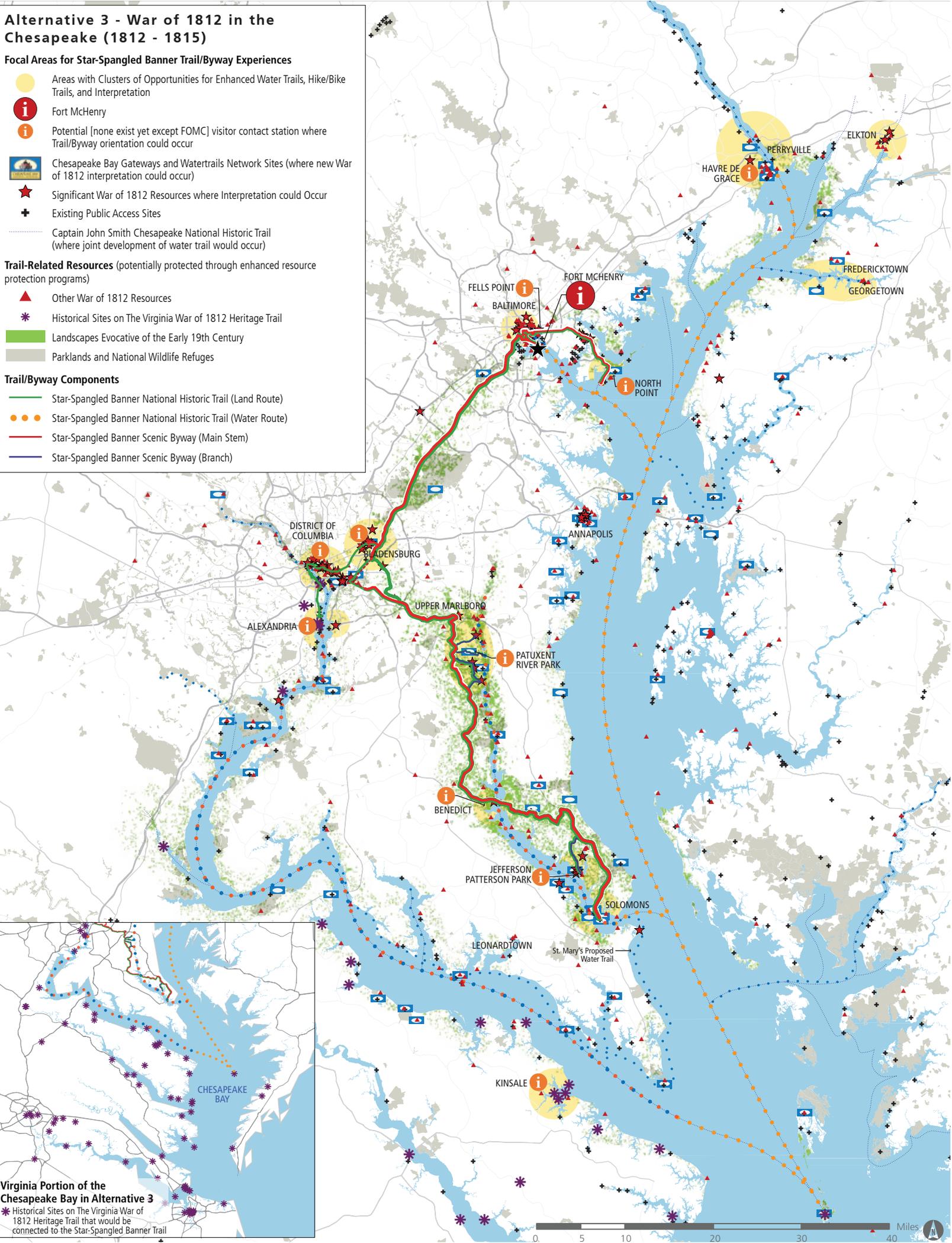
-  Areas with Clusters of Opportunities for Enhanced Water Trails, Hike/Bike Trails, and Interpretation
-  Fort MCHENRY
-  Potential [none exist yet except FOMC] visitor contact station where Trail/Byway orientation could occur
-  Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network Sites (where new War of 1812 interpretation could occur)
-  Significant War of 1812 Resources where Interpretation could Occur
-  Existing Public Access Sites
-  Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail (where joint development of water trail would occur)

Trail-Related Resources (potentially protected through enhanced resource protection programs)

-  Other War of 1812 Resources
-  Historical Sites on The Virginia War of 1812 Heritage Trail
-  Landscapes Evocative of the Early 19th Century
-  Parklands and National Wildlife Refuges

Trail/Byway Components

-  Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail (Land Route)
-  Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail (Water Route)
-  Star-Spangled Banner Scenic Byway (Main Stem)
-  Star-Spangled Banner Scenic Byway (Branch)



Recreational Learning along the Bay's Trails and Byways

- Visitors learn about the people, places, events, and untold stories of the War of 1812 time period, the commercial and social context of the War, the War's legacy, and the Bay's natural ecology, as they explore and recreate along shared trail/byway land route
- Water trails provide new and enhanced interpretive media and public access beyond the extent of the Patuxent, Patapsco and Potomac Rivers to the Upper Bay, Eastern Shore, Southern Maryland, and neighboring Virginia War of 1812 Heritage Trail
- Guided and self-guided itineraries and other interpretive media provide new opportunities to explore the cultural and natural history of the Chesapeake Bay while recreating along intersecting hiking, biking or water trails including the Captain John Smith Chesapeake and Potomac Heritage Trails

Visitor Experience

Themes and Stories

In addition to learning about the stories, places and people, and untold stories relative to the military events from 1812 to 1815, interpretation also emphasizes the war's commercial and societal context, the creation of national icons, the war's outcomes and legacy, and the natural environment of the Chesapeake Bay in the early 19th century.

Land- and Water-Based Experiences

Visitors follow a shared trail/byway land route from Solomons to North Point, or follow nearby recreation trails – such as the proposed North Point Greenway Trail – where signage, itineraries and tours and mobile media interpret the broader context and consequences of the war, including how the war affected civilian life.

Visitors enjoy new and enhanced access, signage, and virtual media as they navigate the Patuxent and Patapsco Rivers.

New interpretive media tell War of 1812 stories along water trails on the Sassafra River, Chester River, Potomac River, and Upper Bay. Partners are encouraged to develop new water trails to enhance access to and interpretation of War of 1812 resources.

Thematically-related land trails – such as the Virginia War of 1812 Heritage Trail and Southern Maryland 1812 Trail – guide people by land to locations along the trail's water route, such as Alexandria, Tangier, Caulk's Field and Leonardtown.

Full integration with the John Smith Chesapeake Trail, Potomac Heritage Trail, and state heritage areas and greenways provides physical connections among resources from different historical time periods and enhances outdoor recreation opportunities.

Connectivity

New signage, itineraries, maps and virtual media orient visitors and strengthen connections within interpretation and recreation opportunity clusters that develop along trail/byway land and water routes, including Benedict, Bladensburg, Baltimore City, North Point, and Havre de Grace.

Itineraries, maps and virtual media direct visitors from these regional clusters to thematically-related trails, such as the Virginia War of 1812 Heritage Trail and other national historic and scenic trails, byways, and greenways that provide additional opportunities to experience the Chesapeake Bay.

Orientation

Fort McHenry is the primary trail visitor center.

An existing visitor center, contact station or structure in each regional hub (e.g., Bladensburg, Benedict, North Point, Havre de Grace, and other locations) is enhanced to provide War of 1812 orientation and information on nearby recreation and learning activities.

Visitor orientation potentially occurs in existing or rehabilitated facilities shared with the John Smith Chesapeake Trail and/or the developing Washington-Rochambeau Trail (as feasible).

Resource Stewardship

Trail-Related Resources, Landscapes and Viewsheds

NPS works with partners and provides limited financial assistance to protect trail-related resources, landscapes and viewsheds evocative of the early 19th century along:

- the Benedict to Bladensburg to Washington segment
- the North Point to Hampstead segment
- the Patapsco River upstream to Fort McHenry
- the Patuxent River upstream to Hills Bridge

Additionally, NPS works with partners to protect resources from the 1812 to 1815 period and landscapes evocative of the early 19th century that are on, or in close proximity to, the other the land and water routes of the trail and byway, including:

- the Potomac River
- the western and eastern shores of the Chesapeake Bay from the mouth of the Potomac River to Havre de Grace
- existing and proposed water trails that connect and interpret War of 1812 resources

Stewardship is focused at sites and landscapes that meet criteria developed during the management planning process

Partnerships

National Trails, Designated Gateways, and NPS Programs

Trail/byway partners, Chesapeake Gateways partners, and the John Smith Chesapeake, Potomac Heritage, and Washington-Rochambeau Trails fully collaborate on projects, programs, and infrastructure, including shared facilities, that provide recreational experiences and enhance visitor understanding and appreciation of the Chesapeake Bay.

Under existing authorities, NPS cultural resources and recreation and conservation assistance programs are enlisted to assist state and local partners with documentation and protection of trail-related resources, cooperative conservation, and recreation development.

State, Local, Non-profit Partnerships

NPS and state and local trail/byway partners co-develop infrastructure and programming, including water trails, bicycle routes, and interpretive media and programs that enhance the visitor experience and appreciation of the Chesapeake Bay.

A non-profit friends organization representing watershed, heritage area, tourism, and recreation interests facilitates, in coordination with the NPS, public access, recreation, interpretation, land protection, and connections with related history and recreation initiatives including national trails.





This newsletter was produced in connection with the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail Comprehensive Management Plan/ Environmental Assessment and Star-Spangled Banner Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan.

Volume 2, Issue 1 (Spring 2011)

The National Park Service Chesapeake Bay Office coordinates the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network and serves as the administrator for the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail and the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail. The Maryland Office of Tourism Development serves as the administrator for the Star-Spangled Banner Scenic Byway within Maryland.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

For more information about this newsletter please contact:

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Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail
National Park Service Chesapeake Bay Office
410.260.2476; Suzanne_Copping@nps.gov

Next Steps for the Trail and Byway

This spring the National Park Service is presenting alternative concepts for the future of the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail and Scenic Byway. These concepts describe management objectives, policies, and actions that will guide the development of the trail/byway over the next 15-20 years. Please join use for a series of four public workshops to be held along the trail/byway in late April (see page 1 for dates and locations). NPS staff will be present to hear your comments and suggestions.

A draft of the management plan, including an environmental assessment, will be publicized in late 2011. The public will again have the opportunity to share comments, ideas, and suggestions during a 30-day review period.

Approval of the Comprehensive Management Plan/Environmental Assessment is expected in early 2012.

Timeline

Spring 2011	Public Workshops Preliminary Alternatives
Fall 2011	Draft CMP/EA Distribution for Public Comment
Winter 2012	CMP/EA Approval NPS Regional Director

“The Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail, a trail consisting of water and overland routes totaling approximately 290 miles, extending from Tangier Island, Virginia, through southern Maryland, the District of Columbia, and northern Virginia, in the Chesapeake Bay, Patuxent River, Potomac River, and north to the Patapsco River, and Baltimore, Maryland, commemorating the Chesapeake Campaign of the War of 1812...

...the Secretary of the Interior shall...encourage communities, owners of land along the trail, and volunteer trail groups to participate in the planning, development, and maintenance of the trail; and consult with other affected landowners and Federal, State, and local agencies in the administration of the trail...

...subject to the availability of appropriations, the Secretary of the Interior may provide, to State and local governments and nonprofit organizations, interpretive programs and services and technical assistance for use in carrying out preservation and development of the trail; and providing education relating to the War of 1812 along the trail.”

--National Trails System Act (P.L. 90-543, as amended through P.L. 111-11, March 30, 2009)