

Public Access Workgroup 2018 Data Call Minutes

Thursday, November 8, 2018

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Conference Line: 866-704-1637, pass code: 269 490#

<https://epawebconferencing.acms.com/git5>



Summary of Actions:

Action: Drew will share the updated membership spreadsheet with the Public Access Workgroup.

Action: Workgroup members will review the membership list and send back to Drew with updates.

Action: Contact Andy with any data content related questions.

Action: States will submit 2018 site data to Drew, Amy, and Jackie by Monday, January 14th.

Update on Public Access Team Membership (Jackie Kramer, NPS)

Action: Drew will share the updated membership spreadsheet with the Public Access Workgroup.

Action: Workgroup members and the workgroup will review the membership list and send back to Drew with updates.

Review of Data Collection Form (Andy Fitch, USGS)

Andy will walk the team through the process used for recording public access site data, referring to the 2017 data as an example.

Action: Contact Andy with any data related questions.

Timeline for Submission of Data (Jackie Kramer, NPS)

Action: States will submit 2018 site data to Drew, Amy, and Jackie by Monday, January 14th.

Gateways Funding Update (Bob Campbell/Jackie Kramer, NPS)

- NPS Chesapeake Bay Office is waiting to for FY2019 appropriation results.
- Funding will support public access qualitative and quantitative goals, helping to increase the quantity of open sites as well as quality and maintenance.

Other Items/Concerns Brought Forward by Team Members (All)

Erik Zlokovitz: three new license free fishing areas (LFFAs):

- Perryville Ice House Park — Within the park boundaries of Ice House Park downstream of the Route 40 bridge on the Susquehanna River (Cecil County).
- Greensboro Waterfront Park — Upstream of the Sunset Avenue bridge within park boundaries on the Choptank River (Caroline County).
- Crisfield City Dock — City dock/depot area at the end of West Main Street (Somerset County).
- There is no entity between Maryland Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Tourism.
- Fish and Hunt Maryland will be present at the Great American Outdoor Show in Harrisburg in February, 2019.

Bob Campbell:

- Captain John Smith Trail moved to Colonial so the mission of the NPS Chesapeake Bay Office will focus on stewardship and how to increase engagement with the Chesapeake Bay Program.
- Chuck Hunt is leaving the NPS Chesapeake Bay Office and moving to New Orleans.

Robbie Rhur:

- Uncertainty with LWCF funding.
- Memorandum of Understanding funded two years ago to improve bridge crossings. Virginia Department of Transportation has shown support.
- New public access sites opening on Lower Rappahannock water trail before 2019.
- Virginia Outdoors Plan Maintenance funding gap remains an issue.

Mark Hohengasser:

- New York State Parks is awaiting public access data from the Department of Conservation.
- New boat launch has opened at Glimmerglass State Park in Cooperstown.

John Davy:

- Whitewater Park, Turkey Island Creek, and at least two other public access sites will have opened in VA in 2018.
- Clarifying point: sites can have multiple openings and still be recognized as separate sites in the site count data.

Bob Campbell:

- An award was made in 2017 that will support new kayak launch in Whitewater State Park and other paddle-in camp sites.

Jackie Kramer:

- Mapleton Borough established new kayak/canoe launch and paddle in campsite in PA.
- Executive Director, John Arway has retired from the PA Fish and Boat Commission and will be replaced by Tim Schaeffer.

Participants:

Jackie Kramer, Chair, National Park Service

Amy Handen, Coordinator, National Park Service

Drew Pizzala, Staffer, Chesapeake Research Consortium

Bob Campbell, National Park Service

John Davy, Chesapeake Conservancy

Andy Fitch, U.S. Geological Survey

Mark Hohengasser, New York State Parks

Robbie Rhur, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation

Erik Zlokovitz, Maryland Department of Natural Resources