



City of
Salisbury
John "Jack" R. Heath, Mayor

Megan Outten
Salisbury City Council
District 3
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410 Winder Street
Salisbury, MD 21801

Senator Chris Van Hollen
730 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Congressman John Sarbanes
2370 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

Dear Senator Van Hollen and Congressman Sarbanes,

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for the proposal to establish the Chesapeake National Recreation Area, championed by Senator Chris Van Hollen and Congressman John Sarbanes. As a citizen who deeply values the preservation of our natural heritage, I believe that the creation of this recreation area is an indispensable step in safeguarding the Chesapeake Bay and its surrounding ecosystems for future generations to enjoy.

The Chesapeake Bay holds a special place in the hearts of countless Americans, serving as not only a natural wonder but also as a cultural and historical landmark. It is a sanctuary for an impressive array of plant and animal species, some of which are found nowhere else in the world. By establishing the Chesapeake National Recreation Area, we ensure that these critical habitats are protected from the encroachment of development and remain intact for the prosperity of our environment.

Furthermore, this proposed recreation area presents an exceptional opportunity for local communities and visitors alike to connect with nature, engage in outdoor activities, and learn about the rich history and heritage of the Chesapeake Bay region. By promoting responsible recreational use, we can foster a deeper appreciation for the natural world, encouraging conservation efforts and fostering a sense of stewardship among the public.

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Beyond environmental and recreational benefits, the establishment of the Chesapeake National Recreation Area would have a positive impact on the local economy. The tourism and outdoor recreation industries play a crucial role in sustaining livelihoods and supporting small businesses in the area. This protected designation will draw visitors from near and far, creating a boon for local restaurants, hotels, and other enterprises.

The journey to the realization of the CNRA has been long, and I commend the tireless efforts in spearheading this significant initiative. The bipartisan support garnered for this proposal is a testament to the value it holds for all Americans. The Chesapeake National Recreation Area has the potential to become a model for how conservation, cultural preservation, and economic development can work hand in hand.

In closing, I wholeheartedly support the Chesapeake National Recreation Area proposal and urge your efforts in advocating for the Chesapeake Bay Area. This legislation reflects America's commitment to the well-being of our environment and communities. By supporting this proposal, we take a crucial step toward preserving the Chesapeake Bay's unique ecosystem, its cultural significance, and the diverse recreational opportunities it offers.

Sincerely,
Megan Outten
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