

Coastal Barrier Resources System Hurricane Sandy Remapping Project

Summary of Final Recommended Changes for Virginia

In 2014, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) initiated the Hurricane Sandy Remapping Project to comprehensively modernize the maps for the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources (CBRS) units in the nine states most affected by Hurricane Sandy: Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York (Long Island), Rhode Island, and Virginia. This fact sheet summarizes the final recommended changes to the CBRS units in Virginia resulting from this project. The revised maps produced through this project will only become effective once they are adopted by Congress through legislation. For additional information on the Coastal Barrier Resources Act and the Hurricane Sandy Remapping Project, please visit: <https://www.fws.gov/project/hurricane-sandy-remapping-project>.

Number of Units in Project

Total Recommended Virginia Units: 77

System Units: 55

Otherwise Protected Areas (OPAs): 22

The Service has prepared comprehensively revised final recommended maps for all of the 64 existing CBRS units in Virginia. Four existing units in Virginia have no recommended changes. The Service identified 14 recommended new units in Virginia. Three of the 14 recommended new units in Virginia are comprised either partially or entirely of areas that are currently contained within the CBRS, but are recommended for reclassification from System Unit to OPA. Eleven of the 14 recommended new units in Virginia are comprised entirely of areas that are not currently contained within the CBRS. Ninety-three percent of the acreage in the 14 recommended new Virginia units is not currently within the CBRS. One of the existing 64 units is recommended for deletion from the CBRS, and therefore its current unit number is retired, resulting in 77 total recommended units.

Public Review and Comments

The Service held a 120-day public The Service held a 120-day public review and comment period on the proposed boundaries in Virginia from December 18, 2018 through April 17, 2019 (83 FR 64861). The Service received eight comments affecting seven units

in Virginia. For a summary of the comments received and the Service's responses, see [chapter 3](#) and [appendix C](#) of the 2022 *Report to Congress: John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Hurricane Sandy Remapping Project*.

Changes between Proposed and Final Recommended Boundaries

The aerial imagery initially used to prepare the proposed boundaries for the Virginia units in this project was dated 2016. When preparing the final recommended boundaries, the Service reviewed the proposed boundaries against the updated imagery and made necessary adjustments to better follow the intended features visible on the updated imagery. The imagery used for the final recommended maps is dated 2018. The Service also made changes to three units in response to comments received during the public comment period, including the creation of one new recommended unit that was not initially proposed. The changes made between the proposed and final recommended boundaries for each Virginia unit are summarized in [appendix K](#) of the 2022 *Report to Congress: John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Hurricane Sandy Remapping Project*.

Final Recommended Acreage and Structure Changes

The final recommended maps for the Virginia units would remove 201 acres from the CBRS (149 acres of fastland and 52 acres of associated aquatic habitat) and add 96,435 acres to the CBRS (1,422 acres of fastland and 95,013 acres of associated aquatic habitat). The final recommended maps

for the Virginia units would remove 53 acres of privately-owned lands not held for conservation/recreation from the CBRS and add 404 acres of privately-owned lands to the CBRS.

The final recommended boundaries would remove 81 structures (mostly private residential) from the CBRS and add 45 structures to the CBRS.

Information about the recommended changes for each of the individual Virginia units (including acreage and structure changes) is available in [appendix K](#) of the 2021 Report to Congress: John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System Hurricane Sandy Remapping Project and at: <https://www.fws.gov/project/hurricane-sandy-remapping-project>.

Final Recommended Acreage and Structure Changes for Virginia

	Fastland Acres ¹		Associated Aquatic Habitat Acres ²		Total Acres		Total Structures ³	
	System Unit	OPAs	System Unit	OPAs	System Unit	OPAs	System Unit	OPAs
<i>Added to the CBRS</i>	427	995	26,154	68,859	26,581	69,854	28	17
	Total: 1,422		Total: 95,013		Total: 96,435		Total: 45	
<i>Removed from the CBRS</i>	82	67	33	19	115	86	78	3
	Total: 149		Total: 52		Total: 201		Total: 81	
<i>Net Reclassified⁴</i>	(11)	11	1,892	(1,892)	1,881	(1,881)		
<i>Net Change</i>	Total: 1,273		Total: 94,961		Total: 96,234		Total: (36)	

¹ Land above mean high tide.

² Associated aquatic habitat includes wetlands, marshes, estuaries, inlets, and open water landward of the coastal barrier; but does not include open water seaward of the shoreline. This information is derived National Wetlands Inventory data.

³ Approximate structure count derived from base map imagery. Gas and liquid storage tanks, structures without walls and a roof (e.g., picnic shelters), structures with fewer than 200 square feet, structures that are not affixed to a permanent site (e.g., recreational vehicles), and structures that are not located principally above ground are not included in this structure count because they do not meet the statutory definition of a "structure" (16 U.S.C. 3503(g)(2)).

⁴ Reclassified area are areas currently within the CBRS that are recommended for reclassification from System Unit to OPA or vice versa.

Hurricane Sandy Remapping Project

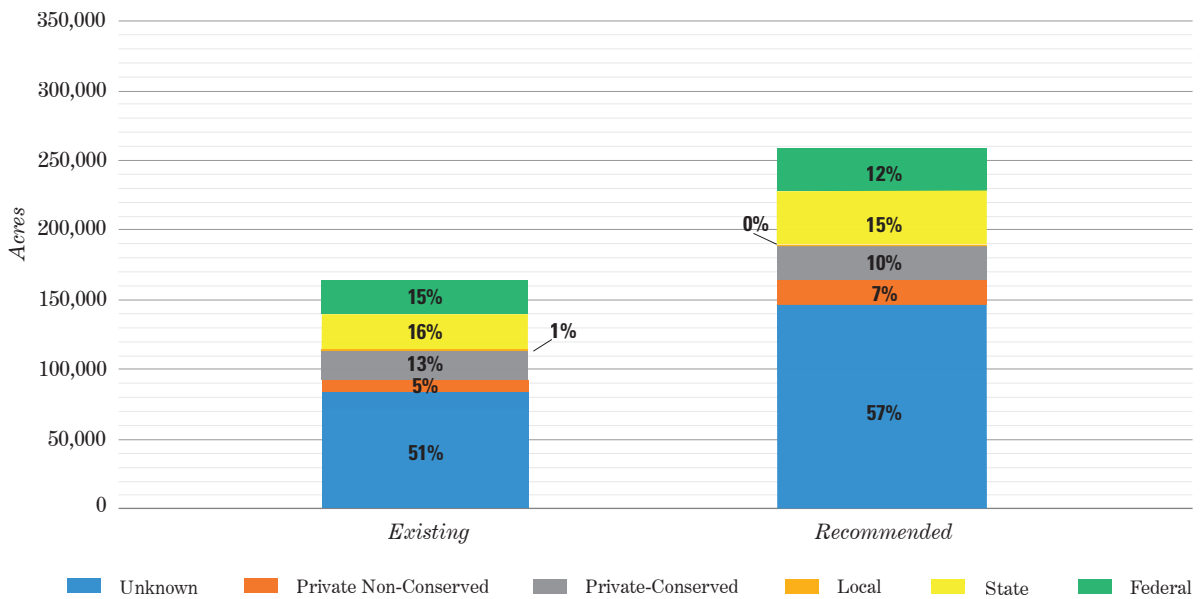
Final Recommended Changes by Land Ownership

The ownership type of the existing and final recommended CBRS units in Virginia is depicted in the graph below. In conducting this project, the Service relied heavily on publicly

available state and local GIS data, which did not contain ownership information for certain areas (mostly large swaths of wetlands and open water) that are within the project area; and therefore such areas are categorized as “unknown.” “Private conserved” indicates areas that

are owned by private individuals or organizations (e.g., The Nature Conservancy, Audubon Society, etc.) and held specifically for conservation and/or recreation purposes, including privately-owned areas that are subject to conservation easements.

Ownership Type and Percent Acreage¹ of Existing and Final Recommended Coastal Barrier Resources System Units for Virginia



¹Ownership data was acquired from local, state, federal, and non-governmental organizations between 2014 and 2017

Report to Congress: John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System

Virginia Units in Project

<i>County</i>	<i>Congressional District</i>	<i>Unit Number</i>	<i>Unit Name</i>	<i>Unit Status</i>
Accomack	VA-2	K03	Cedar Island	Existing Unit
Northampton	VA-2	K04	Little Cobb Island	Existing Unit
Northampton	VA-2	K05	Fishermans Island	Existing Unit
Northampton	VA-2	K05P	Fishermans Island	Existing Unit
Accomack	VA-2	VA-01P	Assateague Island	Existing Unit
Accomack	VA-2	VA-02P	Assawoman Island	Existing Unit
Accomack	VA-2	VA-03P	Metompkin Island	Existing Unit
Accomack, Northampton	VA-2	VA-04P	Parramore/Hog/ Cobb Islands	Existing Unit
Northampton	VA-2	VA-05P	Wreck Island	Existing Unit
Northampton	VA-2	VA-06P	Smith Island	Existing Unit
Northampton	VA-2	VA-09	Elliotts Creek	Existing Unit
Northampton	VA-2	VA-10	Old Plantation Creek	Existing Unit
Northampton	VA-2	VA-11	Wescoat Point	Existing Unit
Northampton	VA-2	VA-12	Great Neck	Existing Unit
Northampton	VA-2	VA-13	Westerhouse Creek	Existing Unit
Northampton	VA-2	VA-14	Shooting Point	Existing Unit
Accomack, Northampton	VA-2	VA-16	Scarborough Neck	Existing Unit
Accomack	VA-2	VA-16P	Scarborough Neck	New Unit - Mostly Reclassified
Accomack	VA-2	VA-17	Craddock Neck	Existing Unit
Accomack	VA-2	VA-17P	Craddock Neck	New Unit
Accomack	VA-2	VA-18	Hacks Neck	Existing Unit
Accomack	VA-2	VA-19	Parkers/Finneys Islands	Existing Unit
Accomack	VA-2	VA-20	Parkers Marsh	New Unit - Partially Reclassified
Accomack	VA-2	VA-20P	Parkers Marsh	Existing Unit
Accomack	VA-2	VA-21	Beach Island	Existing Unit
Accomack	VA-2	VA-22	Russell Island	Existing Unit
Accomack	VA-2	VA-22P	Russell Island	New Unit
Accomack	VA-2	VA-23	Simpson Bend	Existing Unit
Accomack	VA-2	VA-24	Drum Bay	Existing Unit
Accomack	VA-2	VA-25	Fox Islands	Existing Unit
Accomack	VA-2	VA-26	Cheeseman Island	Existing Unit
Accomack	VA-2	VA-27	Watts Island	Existing Unit
Accomack	VA-2	VA-28	Tangier Island	Existing Unit
Accomack	VA-2	VA-28P	Tangier Island	New Unit - Entirely Reclassified
Westmoreland	VA-1	VA-29	Elbow Point	Existing Unit
Westmoreland	VA-1	VA-30	White Point	Existing Unit

Hurricane Sandy Remapping Project

Virginia Units in Project (continued)

<i>County</i>	<i>Congressional District</i>	<i>Unit Number</i>	<i>Unit Name</i>	<i>Unit Status</i>
Westmoreland	VA-1	VA-31	Cabin Point	Existing Unit
Westmoreland	VA-1	VA-32	Glebe Point	Existing Unit
Westmoreland	VA-1	VA-33	Sandy Point	Existing Unit
Northumberland	VA-1	VA-34	Judith Sound	Existing Unit
Northumberland	VA-1	VA-35	Cod Creek	Existing Unit
Northumberland	VA-1	VA-36	Presley Creek	Existing Unit
Northumberland	VA-1	VA-37	Cordreys Beach	Existing Unit
Northumberland	VA-1	VA-38	Marshalls Beach	Existing Unit
Northumberland	VA-1	VA-39P	Ginny Beach	Existing Unit
Northumberland	VA-1	VA-40	Gaskin Pond	Existing Unit
Northumberland	VA-1	VA-41	Owens Pond	Existing Unit
Northumberland	VA-1	VA-42	Chesapeake Beach	Existing Unit
Northumberland	VA-1	VA-43	Fleet Point	Existing Unit
Northumberland	VA-1	VA-44	Bussel Point	Existing Unit
Northumberland	VA-1	VA-45	Harveys Creek	Existing Unit
Northumberland	VA-1	VA-46	Ingram Cove	Existing Unit
Northumberland	VA-1	VA-47	Bluff Point Neck	Existing Unit
Northumberland	VA-1	VA-47P	Bluff Point Neck	New Unit
Northumberland	VA-1	VA-48	Barnes Creek	Existing Unit
Lancaster	VA-1	VA-49	North Point	Existing Unit
Lancaster	VA-1	VA-50	Windmill Point	Existing Unit
Lancaster	VA-1	VA-51	Deep Hole Point	Existing Unit
Middlesex	VA-1	VA-52	Sturgeon Creek	Existing Unit
Middlesex	VA-1	VA-53	Jackson Creek	Existing Unit
Middlesex	VA-1	VA-54	Stove Point	Existing Unit Deleted and Unit Number Retired
Mathews	VA-1	VA-55	Rigby Island/Bethel Beach	Existing Unit
Mathews	VA-1	VA-55P	Rigby Island/Bethel Beach	New Unit
Mathews	VA-1	VA-56	New Point Comfort	Existing Unit
Gloucester	VA-1	VA-57	Ware Neck	Existing Unit
Gloucester	VA-1	VA-58	Severn River	Existing Unit
City of Poquoson (Independent City)	VA-2	VA-59P	Plum Tree Island	Existing Unit
City of Hampton (Independent City)	VA-2	VA-60	Long Creek	Existing Unit
City of Hampton (Independent City)	VA-2	VA-60P	Long Creek	Existing Unit
City of Virginia Beach (Independent City)	VA-2	VA-61P	Cape Henry	Existing Unit
City of Virginia Beach (Independent City)	VA-2	VA-62P	Back Bay	Existing Unit
Northumberland	VA-1	VA-63P	Dameron Marsh	New Unit

Report to Congress: John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System

Virginia Units in Project (continued)

<i>County</i>	<i>Congressional District</i>	<i>Unit Number</i>	<i>Unit Name</i>	<i>Unit Status</i>
Lancaster	VA-1	VA-64	Little Bay	New Unit
Lancaster	VA-1	VA-65P	White Marsh	New Unit
Gloucester	VA-1	VA-66	Lone Point	New Unit
Gloucester	VA-1	VA-67	Oldhouse Creek	New Unit
York	VA-2	VA-68	Bay Tree Beach	New Unit
York	VA-2	VA-68P	Bay Tree Beach	New Unit

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