



The Delaware Bayshore National Conservation Area

The Opportunity

- *Enhance the Delaware Bayshore to create a world class conservation and low-impact recreation destination*
- *Expand Delaware's \$250M conservation economy and create jobs*

Why Delaware Bayshore?

- *Region recognized as area of ecological significance*
- *Extensive undeveloped coastal habitat supports 500,000+ shorebirds annually*
- *Key species: shorebirds, migratory songbirds, horseshoe crabs, breeding rails, sparrows, wrens, herons, egrets, terns, raptors, water fowl, globally rare plant species, insects, amphibians*
- *Diverse habitat: shoreline, coastal marshes, agriculture lands, forests*

Where are we today?

- 40th Anniversary of Coastal Zone Act
- Global destination for outdoorsmen & birders
- Significant land protection: 58% of acreage from Pea Patch Island to Lewes
- Threats to habitat and limited access
- Designation as Key Project for “America’s Great Outdoors” Initiative



Specific Areas for Improvement

- Conservation and Restoration
- Low-Impact Recreation
- Economic Development



Conservation and Restoration

- *Priority Areas:*
 - *Thousand Acre Marsh*
 - *Ted Harvey/Little Creek Wildlife Area*
 - *Mispillion River/Milford Neck*
 - *Prime Hook FWR*



Low-Impact Recreation

- *Priorities:*
 - *Enhance Infrastructure for Hunting & Fishing*
 - *Viewing Platforms for Birding & Wildlife Watching*
 - *Trail enhancements for Hiking & Biking*
 - *Waterway Access for Canoeing, Kayaking, & Boating*



Economic Development

- *Focus Areas:*
 - *Main Street Program/Tourism: Delaware City, Port Penn, Little Creek, Leipsic, Bowers, Milford*
 - *Route 9 National Scenic Byway*
 - *Commercial opportunities: restaurants, retail supply/ rental shops (local, Bass Pro, Cabella's, etc), tours, agriculture, etc*

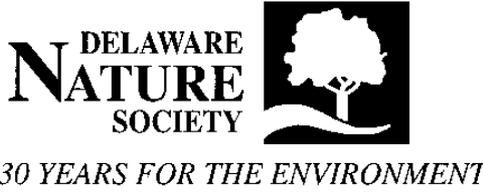
Economic Development

- *Key Facilities/Destinations:*
 - *Welcome Center/Aquatic Resources Ed. Center*
 - *DuPont Nature Center & Biden Enviro. Center*
 - *Historical: Ft. Delaware & Dickinson Plantation*
 - *DNERR: Blackbird and St. Jones*
 - *Federal Refuges: Bombay and Prime Hook*

Alignment w/ Administration Priorities

- Bayshore Initiative has potential to:
 - Spur Economic Activity: Establish Delaware as a world-class ecotourism destination
 - Improve Quality of Life: Create outdoor recreation / healthy living opportunities
 - Enhance Education: Provide a living classroom for students
 - Prepare Delaware for Future: Reduce long-term risks from climate impacts, intense storms, etc.

Key Partners



THE CONSERVATION FUND

America's Partner in Conservation



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