

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) Unit VA-28, Tangier Island, Virginia Summary of Proposed Changes

Type of Unit: System Unit

County: Accomack

Congressional District: 2

Existing Map:

The existing CBRS map depicting this unit is:

- [51-018A](#) dated August 1, 2014

Proposed Boundary Notice of Availability:

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (Service) opened a public comment period on the proposed changes to Unit VA-28 via *Federal Register* notice. The *Federal Register* notice and the proposed boundary (accessible through the CBRS Projects Mapper) are available on the Service's website at www.fws.gov/cbra.

Establishment of Unit:

The Coastal Barrier Improvement Act (Pub. L. 101-591), enacted on November 16, 1990 (56 FR 26304), originally established Unit VA-28.

Historical Changes:

The CBRS map for this unit has been modified by the following legislative and/or administrative actions:

- *Federal Register* notice (80 FR 25314) published on May 4, 2015, in accordance with Section 3 of Pub. L. 101-591

For additional information on historical legislative and administrative actions that have affected the CBRS, see: <https://www.fws.gov/cbra/Historical-Changes-to-CBRA.html>.

Proposed Changes:

The proposed changes to Unit VA-28 are described below.

Proposed Removals:

- An area of open water in the northwestern part of Mailboat Harbor along Tangier North Channel
- A small area of associated aquatic habitat along West Ridge Creek

Proposed Additions:

- Associated aquatic habitat along Mailboat Harbor and West Ridge Creek

Proposed Reclassifications:

- From System Unit VA-28 to proposed new Otherwise Protected Area Unit VA-28P: Port Isobel Island Environmental Education Center (owned by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation), including eight non-residential structures associated with the operation of the Education Center

For information about the Service's guiding principles and criteria for assessing modifications to the CBRS, visit www.fws.gov/cbra.

Unit VA-28 Summary of Proposed Changes (continued)

Acreage, Shoreline, and Structure Information:

The table below includes the acreage, shoreline, and structure changes associated with the proposed boundary of Unit VA-28.

	<i>Total Acres</i>	<i>Fastland Acres*</i>	<i>Associated Aquatic Habitat Acres**</i>	<i>Shoreline Miles</i>	<i>Structures***</i>
Existing Unit	1,941	17	1,924	2.3	
Added to the CBRS	11	0	11		0
Removed from the CBRS	7	0	7		0
Reclassified Area****	(122)	(17)	(105)		(8)
Proposed Unit	1,823	0	1,823	2.3	
Net Change	(118)	(17)	(101)	0.0	(8)

*Land above mean high tide.

**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 from National Wetlands Inventory data.

***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)).

****Reclassification means to change either all or a portion of a System Unit to an Otherwise Protected Area, or vice-versa.

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December 2018

