



POTOMAC
RIVERKEEPER®
NETWORK

For Immediate Release
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STATEMENT OF POTOMAC RIVERKEEPER NETWORK TO GOVERNOR HOGAN ON DESIGNATION OF MALLOWS POTOMAC NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Washington, DC – June 7 – Potomac Riverkeeper Network and Potomac Riverkeeper strongly support the establishment of the proposed Mallows Potomac National Marine Sanctuary and urge Governor Hogan to approve the designation documents immediately to enable its establishment before the end of this year.

The proposed 18 square mile sanctuary, celebrating the largest collection of historic WWI and other shipwrecks in the Western Hemisphere, is an important tourist destination for Maryland and Charles County. It will bring much needed outdoor recreation, educational opportunities and jobs to our state. It will be the first National Marine Sanctuary in the Chesapeake Bay watershed and a lasting legacy for Gov. Hogan in his role as Chairman of the Chesapeake Executive Council.

It has been more than four years since the beginning of process for establishing the Mallows Potomac National Marine Sanctuary. That process underscored the overwhelming public support for the proposed sanctuary and the many public benefits to be derived from the sanctuary. There is no reason to delay this designation any longer. Immediate approval by Gov. Hogan will ensure that the sanctuary is established in this Centennial Year of America's and Maryland's role in World War I.

About Potomac Riverkeeper Network

Potomac Riverkeeper Network is a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization with three regional Waterkeeper branches: Potomac Riverkeeper, Upper Potomac Riverkeeper and Shenandoah Riverkeeper. Our mission is to protect the public's right to clean water in our rivers and streams. We stop pollution to promote safe drinking water, protect healthy habitats, and enhance public use and enjoyment.

For more information, visit <http://www.potomacriverkeepernetwork.org>.

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