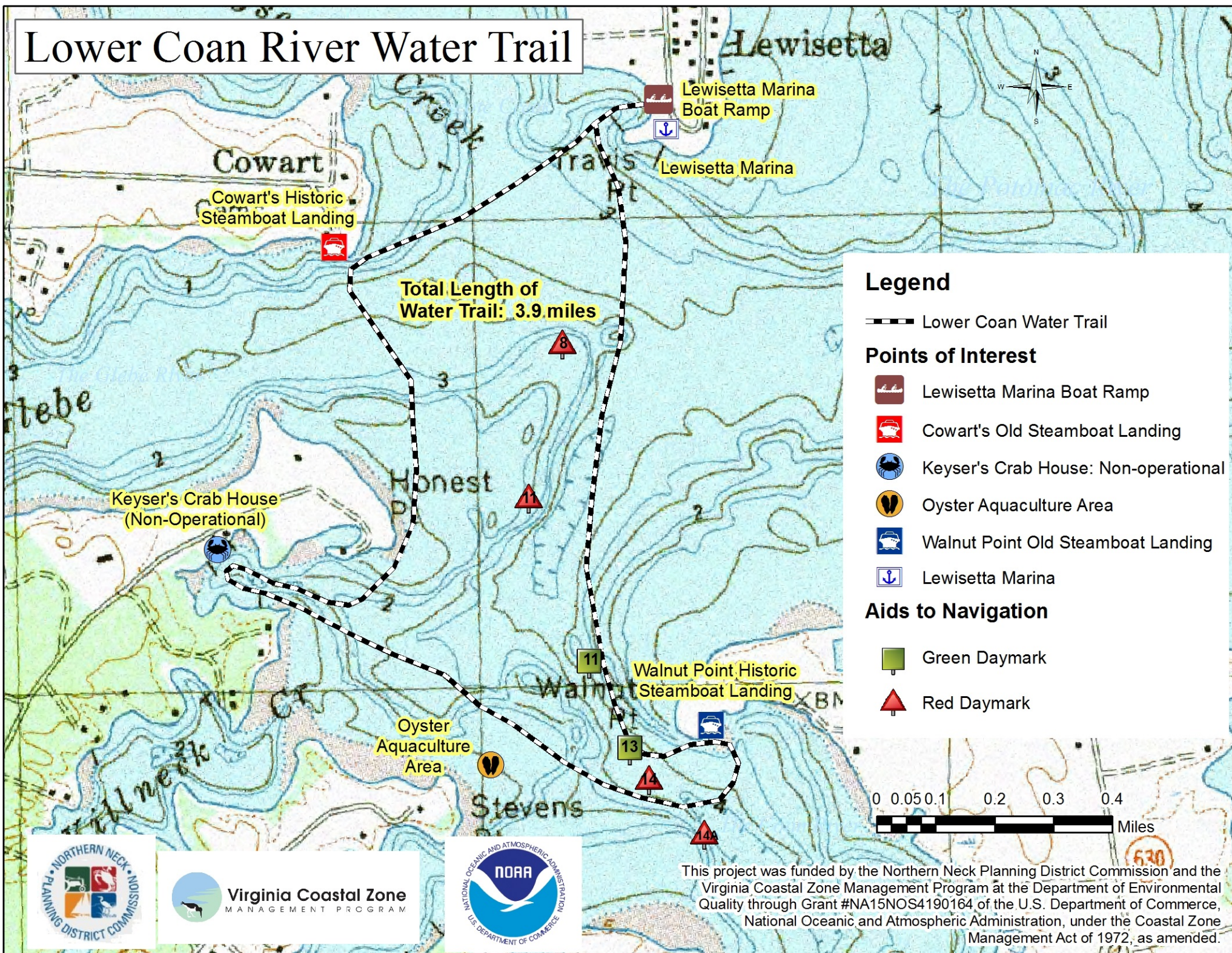
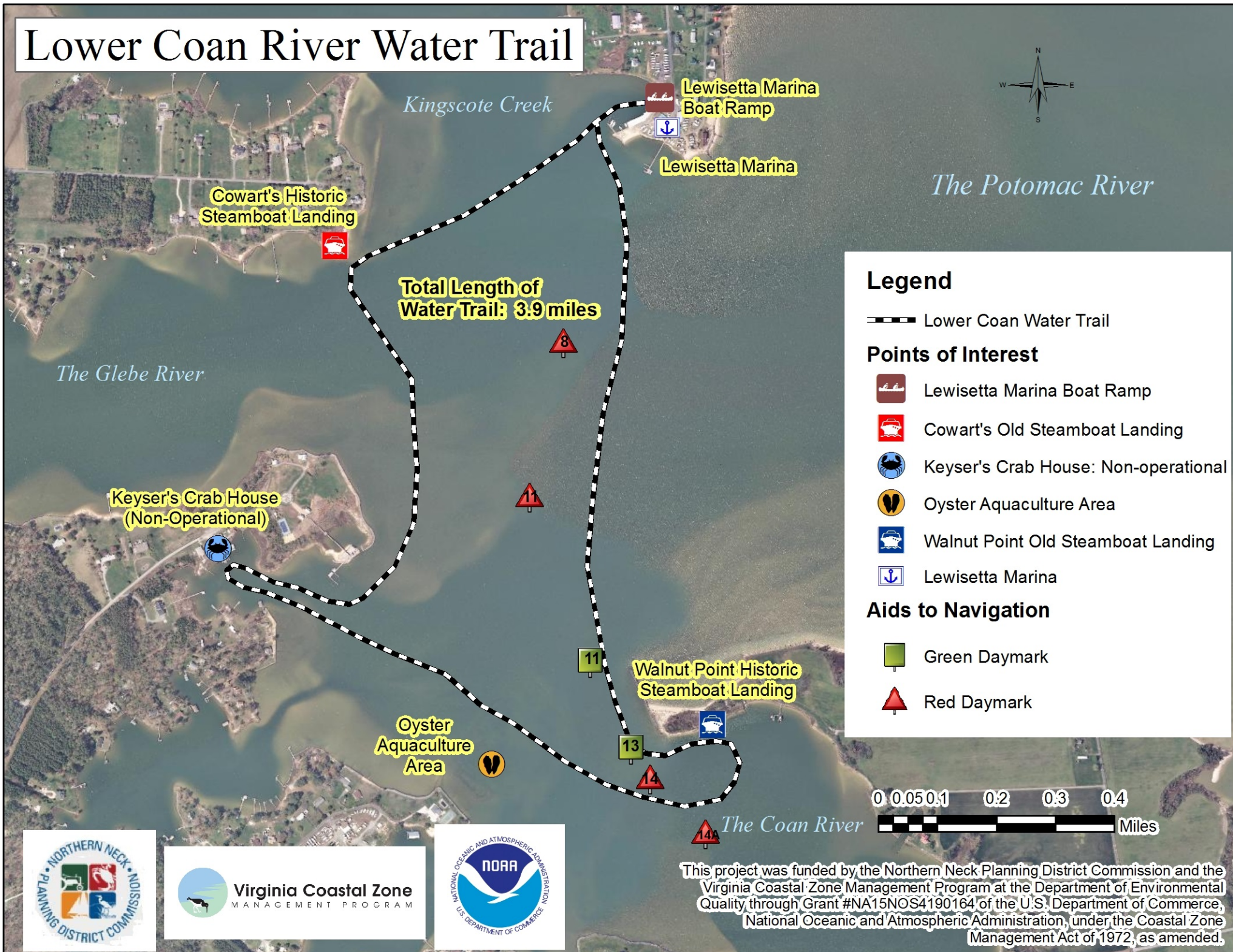


Lower Coan River Water Trail



Lower Coan River Water Trail



Lower Coan River Water Trail

The lower Coan River Water Trail is based out of Lewisetta Marina, located in Lewisetta, Virginia. Lewisetta is a quaint village on a peninsula that divides Kingscote Creek from the Potomac River. Lewisetta Marina functions as the town center, a place to hang out, catch up on the local happenings, as well as a place to get a cold drink and something to snack on.



Lewisetta Marina sells the usual items; bait, ice, chum, boat supplies and hardware, however they also sell locally crafted art and coastal themed décor pieces. The starting point for the Lower Coan River Water Trail is Lewisetta Marina's boat ramp, and there is a nominal fee for launching your canoe or kayak.

Local History

During the steamboat era, the Coan River was a noted for its productive seafood industry and abundance of canneries that packed local produce from the fertile farmland surrounding the Coan and Glebe Rivers. Agriculture is still important in the area, but has switched from produce farming to mostly small grain farming; growing soybeans, wheat and corn in a three year rotation. The declining health of

the living resources in the Bay has taken its toll on the many seafood operations which once called the Coan River home. Cowart Seafood Corporation is one business that has remained viable by transitioning from harvesting wild oysters to oyster aquaculture. *Note: There are blue and green oyster floats marking the submerged oyster cages near the mouth of the Coan.* Steamboats stopped at several points on the Coan and Glebe Rivers; including Cowarts, Cherry Hill, Lake, Bundick, Coan, and Walnut Point picking up passengers and seafood and produce to ship to Baltimore and beyond. Most of the steamboats plying



the local waters were side wheel paddleboats, as opposed to the more recognizable

stern wheel paddleboats that were common on the Mississippi River. Steamboats were the main mode of transportation in the Northern Neck until approximately 1937, when the automobile became more commonplace and bridges connecting the Northern Neck to mainland Virginia were built.



You will likely see an osprey flying overhead, and if you choose to bring a fishing pole, you can expect to catch croaker, spot, perch and an occasional puffer fish (locally known as sugartoads) in the area around the mouth of the Coan River in the summer months. A standard two hook bottom rig baited with squid and/or bloodworm and a small weight should work to entice a bite from the fish mentioned above. Good Luck!

Directions to Lewisetta Marina follow: Travel to the village of Callao (at the intersection of Rt. 202 and US 360) head east on US 360 towards Lottsburg. Before you reach Lottsburg, take a left on Lewisetta Road (Rt. 624) and travel to the end of the road (6.2 miles) and you will be at Lewisetta Marina.

