



CONNECTOR NOMINATION FORM

WATER TRAILS, TRAILS, BYWAYS & OTHER CONNECTORS link other Gateways through a network of boating, walking, biking or driving routes that explore the Bay area and rivers of the Bay watershed. Connecting routes foster appropriate public access to, and interpretation of, the natural, cultural, historical and recreational resources along the route. Trails and water trails emphasize low-impact use and offer opportunities for volunteers to help restore or conserve Bay resources. (See www.baygateways.net/types.cfm for a specific list of characteristics.)

An electronic form with pre-set fields for making entries is available at www.baygateways.net/nomination.cfm.

Name of Proposed Gateway:

Physical Location of Proposed Gateway (town(s), county(ies), state(s)):

Congressional District(s) in which Proposed Gateway is Located:

Managing Organization of Proposed Gateway:

Managing Organization Mailing Address:

Website (if applicable):

Primary Contact Person:

Email Address:

Phone Number:


Fax Number:

Signature of Organization's Chief Executive:

Date Signed:


Name:


Title:



1. Provide a concise description of the proposed Gateway connecting route, including the type (water trail, trail, byway, or other connector), its basic size characteristics (e.g. acres, length in miles). Please also include a statement of the route's mission.


2. What are the Chesapeake-related resources (cultural, natural, historic and recreational) that make up or are physically linked by this proposed Gateway connecting route? Why are the resources important? Are there any special resource designations for the route or along it (e.g. National Register, National Historic Landmark, state scenic river, scenic byway, heritage area, etc.)? Please be specific.






3. Which Chesapeake interpretive themes are best illustrated by the resources that make up or are physically linked by this proposed Gateway connector? Why? Are there multiple themes, or is there one unifying theme that links all the resources? If there is more than one theme please list them in order of prominence/importance, from most important to least. (Refer to Gateways *Framework* for a list of themes.)


4. Assess the Chesapeake-related interpretation currently offered along the proposed Gateway connector route. What themes are interpreted? What kinds of interpretive media and/or programming are currently employed? (e.g. exhibits, live interpretation, signage, audio-visual, etc.)






5. Describe the informational materials (e.g. signage, orientation panels, kiosks, trail map, trail guide, etc.) currently available to orient visitors to resources and activities along the proposed Gateway connector route.


6. What physical access (e.g. trail heads or launch sites, camping or picnicking areas, etc.) is currently available for visitor use along the route? What is the nature of current visitor use? What is the daily/weekly/schedule of operation? What is the total annual visitation, if known (most recent full year available)?






7. How does the proposed Gateway connector currently cooperate programmatically or link interpretively with other related places or institutions along the route? What potential exists to cooperate programmatically or link interpretively with other Gateways along the route?


8. How is stewardship of the Chesapeake and Chesapeake-related resources emphasized? (e.g., through interpretive media or programming, through volunteer involvement in resource conservation projects, through a history of natural/cultural resource restoration or preservation, etc.)






9. How and by whom is the route currently managed? What is your organization's capacity for serving as the long-term coordinator for management of this route as a Gateway connector? What is your annual budget? Do you have an endowment? What is your professional and/or volunteer staff complement?

10. What are the most important projects/steps that need to be undertaken along this route to make it a fully effective Chesapeake Bay Gateway connector? Why? These might be improvements to interpretation, public access and/or stewardship. Please be as specific as you can.





11. Please summarize how you see designation of this route as a Gateway benefiting: (1) your route, and (2) the Gateways Network.

