

**York River Study Committee  
Policy Statement, February 28, 2017**

**York River Wild and Scenic Study and York Harbor Dredging**

The York Harbor has outstandingly remarkable value in its significant contribution to the history and settlement of the region and its vibrant working waterfront, both key features that contribute to a regional “sense of place.” The York River Study Committee endorses maintenance dredging of the York Harbor in support of the federal navigation project that dates back to 1886. This dredging is necessary to support and enhance community-valued commercial and recreational uses of the river.

The Study Committee intends that potential designation of the York River into the Wild and Scenic River system would in no way preclude or interfere with maintenance dredging for the existing York Harbor federal navigation project. The Study Committee shall develop and/or endorse such language in the York River watershed management plan, in any potential recommendation for designation, and in support of any Congressional action to designate the York River in the national Wild and Scenic River system.