



# POTOMAC AND ANACOSTIA RIVERS COLLECTION & REMOVAL OF DRIFT

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
FACT SHEET as of February 2015

BUILDING STRONG®

**AUTHORIZATION:** The Potomac and Anacostia Rivers collection and removal of drift program was authorized by the River and Harbor Act of 1965, Section 301 (Public Law 89-298).

**TYPE OF PROJECT:** Navigation

**CONTRIBUTION TO CHESAPEAKE BAY:** Contributes to Executive Order 13508 goals by innovatively protecting environmental habitat, improving water quality, and expanding public access within the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

**PROJECT PHASE:** Operation and Maintenance

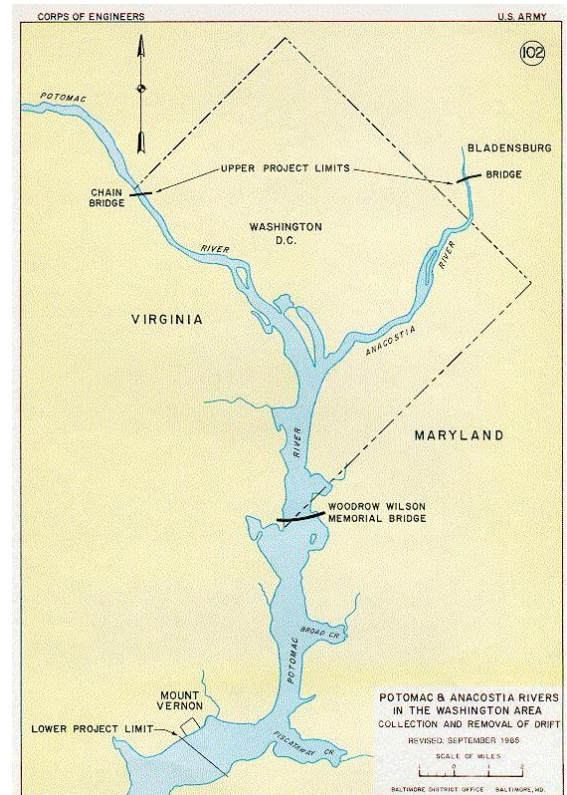
**CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST:** Senators Mikulski and Cardin (MD), Kaine and Warner (VA), Representatives Edwards (MD-4), Beyer (VA-8), Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton (DC)

**NON-FEDERAL SPONSOR:** None

## **BACKGROUND:**

The project is located in Washington, DC

The Baltimore District's Potomac and Anacostia Rivers Drift Collection and Removal Unit operates out of dock facilities adjacent to the Washington, DC, Navy Yard and conducts drift removal operations on a year round basis. The project area in the Potomac River extends from the head of tide (Chain Bridge) to the entrance channel to Mount Vernon, Virginia. The Anacostia River area extends from the head of tide (Bladensburg Bridge) to its confluence with the Potomac River at Fort McNair. The project length is 27 miles long with an area of approximately 16 square miles. The collection and removal effort is intensified following storms, extreme high tides and high river flows. During these periods of heavy drift accumulations. The drift units work may be prolonged and supplemented by procurement of additional resources by contract. Corps boat operators conduct routine patrols and respond to calls received from the Coast Guard, Navy, boat and marina operators, and private citizens. Operations are concentrated in open waters of the main Federal channels and in the vicinity of major terminal facilities. Collected debris consists of tree debris that have fallen into the water, and other hazards to navigation. Corps employees load debris onto barges, tow back to the dock, and then use a crane to transfer debris to steel containers. A contract hauls the debris containers to sanitary landfills.



U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – BALTIMORE DISTRICT

P.O. Box 1715, Baltimore, MD 21203

<http://www.nab.usace.army.mil>

Page 1 of 3

The Potomac and Anacostia Rivers collection and removal of drift program provides benefits to navigation by reducing damages, financial loss, and safety hazards to commercial and recreational vessels, their operators and docking facilities. In addition, it keeps Washington's waterways aesthetically pleasing for business owners, residents and visitors. The program supported environmental initiatives such as the *Anacostia River Clean Up Days* sponsored by the Anacostia Watershed Society and *Spill Response Exercises* sponsored by the District of Columbia and other local county and city governments.

**STATUS:** Project is operational at 40 hours a week with 2 vessels.

**BUDGET:**

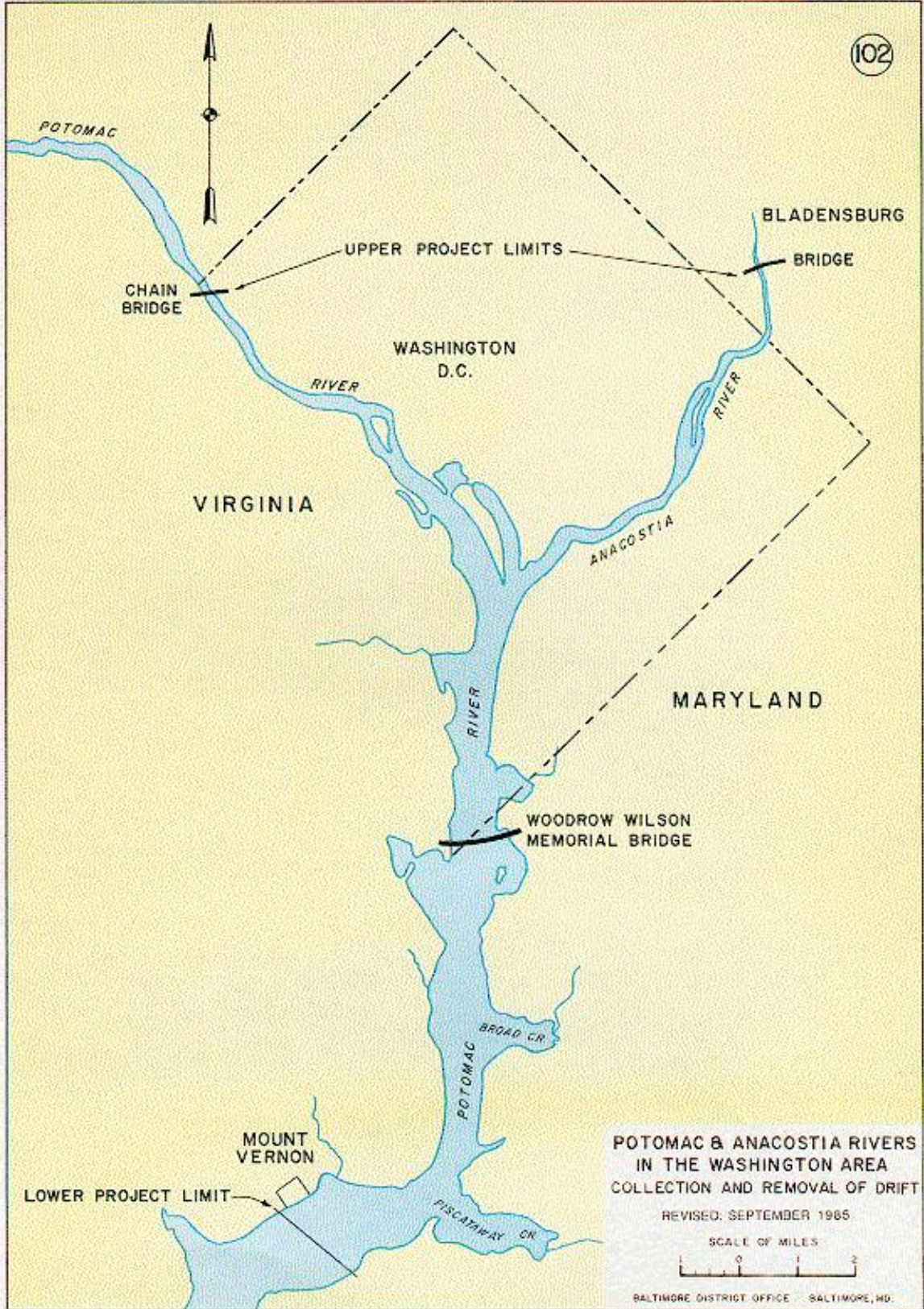
<u>Funds Data</u>	<u>Total</u>
Allocation for FY 2014	866,300
President Budget FY 2015	875,000
Allocation for FY 2015	TBD

**SCHEDULE:**

FY 2014 Completed Work: Drift collection and removal continued on reduced staffing.

FY 2015 Scheduled Work: Drift collection and removal will continue on reduced staffing.

**For more information** regarding Potomac and Anacostia Rivers, contact Steven Golder, CENAB-OP-N, (410) 962-6031, or e-mail [steven.m.golder@usace.army.mil](mailto:steven.m.golder@usace.army.mil). Also see this project's related web page at <http://www.nab.usace.army.mil/Navigation/index.html>



**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – BALTIMORE DISTRICT**

P.O. Box 1715, Baltimore, MD 21203

<http://www.nab.usace.army.mil>