

METRO

In Brief

MARYLAND

River Restoration Plan Announced

Federal, state and Pepco officials announced a \$2.7 million final plan yesterday to restore natural habitat damaged by a massive oil spill more than two years ago at the former Pepco power plant in Aquasco.

The final plan, which was the focus of a news conference at Greenwell State Park, calls for seven recreational improvement projects at sites along the Patuxent River and its tributaries beginning in the spring.

The work also will include the creation of several acres of intertidal marsh wetland near the Chalk Point power plant, an oyster reef sanctuary on the Patuxent and repairs to migratory ducks' nesting habitats.

The April 2000 spill from a fuel oil pipeline at the Chalk Point power plant fouled 76 acres of wetlands and 10 acres of shoreline, mostly in Calvert and St. Mary's counties. The restoration work will be paid for by Pepco and ST Services, the operator of the pipeline.

Pepco sold the power plant to Mirant Mid-Atlantic LLC in 2000 after the spill.