



Written Comments



Your feedback is welcomed and 3 options are offered:

- Submit written comments tonight.
- E-mail comments to: Shari.A.Silbert@nasa.gov
- Mail/fax written comments for receipt by September 2, 2011 to:

Shari Silbert

Manager, Site-wide PPEIS

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility

Wallops Island, VA 23337

Fax: (757) 824-1819





Wallops Site-wide Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement Public Scoping Meeting

NASA Wallops Flight Facility
August 3, 2011

8/3/2011





Scoping Meeting Agenda



- **Welcome**
- Mission Overview
- Institutional Overview
- PEIS Overview
- Public Comment
- Closing Remarks

8/3/2011





Bill Wrobel

*Facility Director,
NASA Wallops Flight Facility*

8/3/2011





Scoping Meeting Agenda



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Bruce Underwood

Chief, Advanced Projects Office

8/3/2011





The Wallops Mission



- Our NASA mission is to carry out low-cost flight projects supporting NASA's priorities
 - Scientific research
 - Aerospace technology development
 - Education
 - Commercial development of space
- The Wallops mission also includes serving as a national resource, leveraging our unique technical and institutional capabilities to enable the missions of others
 - Other government agencies
 - Industry
 - Academia

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Wallops Technical Activities



- Research Carriers
 - Sounding Rockets
 - Balloons
 - Aircraft & UAVs
 - Small satellite
- Mission Operations
 - Launch Range
 - Research Airport
 - Orbital Tracking
- Engineering & Technology Development
- Earth Science Research



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How We Carry Out Our Mission



- Professional trades
 - Engineering design
 - Science research
 - Project management & safety
 - Administrative services
- Light industrial development
 - Mechanical/electrical fabrication
 - Environmental testing labs
 - Technology & science research labs
- Mission Operations
 - Launch range
 - Airport
 - Satellite tracking

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What is New?



- Support to a changing NASA mission
 - Renewed focus on advanced technology development
 - Facilitating emerging commercial space industry
- Changes at Wallops
 - Larger and more frequent rocket launches
 - Additional piloted and unpiloted aircraft based at Wallops
 - Increased airport activity & larger restricted airspace
 - Resurgence in Earth Science related projects
 - Modernized & expanded facilities
 - Increased external partnerships





Taurus II



- Fully addressed in the 2009 Expansion of the Wallops Flight Facility Launch Range EA
- Initially, will carry cargo to the International Space Station
- 10 scheduled flights (so far) during next five years
- Has already led to \$100M in new Wallops construction
- Resulted in ~50 additional personnel continuously at Wallops
- Missions will draw 50+ additional surge personnel

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Other Possible Projects



- Earth Science Ground Instrumentation
 - Calibration for on-orbit satellites
- Military aircraft projects
 - Training missions
 - Aircraft development testing
 - UAV basing
- Rocket technology
 - Demonstrations for NASA, DoD, and commercial industry
- Manned space flight
 - Human-tended suborbital research
 - Space tourism

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Caroline Massey

*Associate Director,
Management Operations Directorate*

8/3/2011





WFF Regional Economic Impact



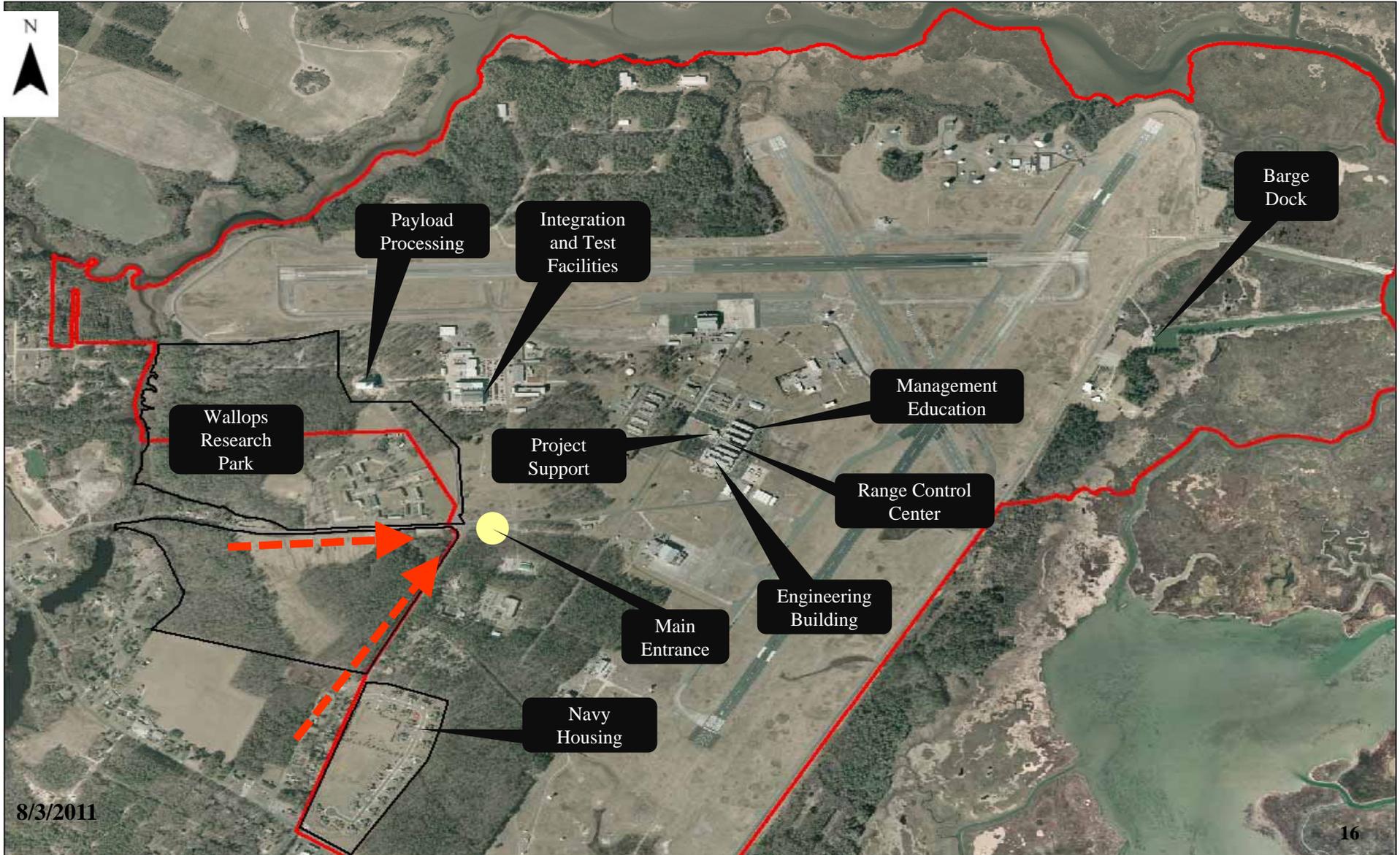
Annual NASA Budget		\$215M
Annual NAVY Budget		\$102M
<u>Full Time Employment</u>		
NASA		1100
NAVY		300
NOAA		<u>88</u>
	Total	1488
Total Local Jobs Supported (Includes Full Time, Part Time, & Temporary)		2,341
Tourism		\$2.4M
Projected Total Annual Regional Economic Impact		\$188M

**Does not include Impact Planned from Taurus II or
Wallops Research Park Growth Activities**





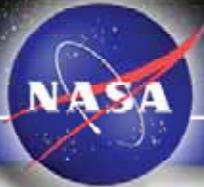
Main Base: The Facility Today



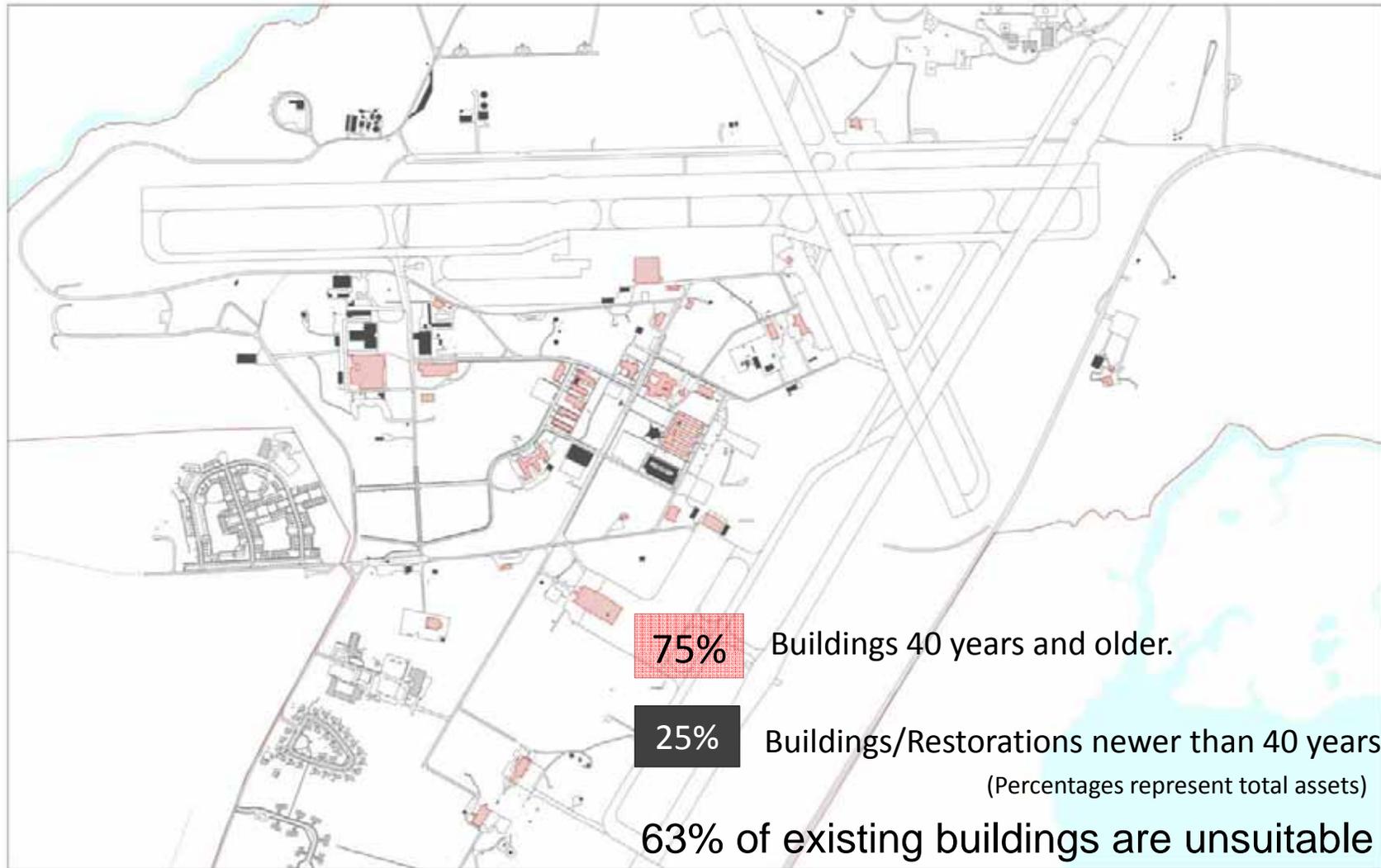


Mainland and Island: The Facility Today





Main Base: Current State of Facilities

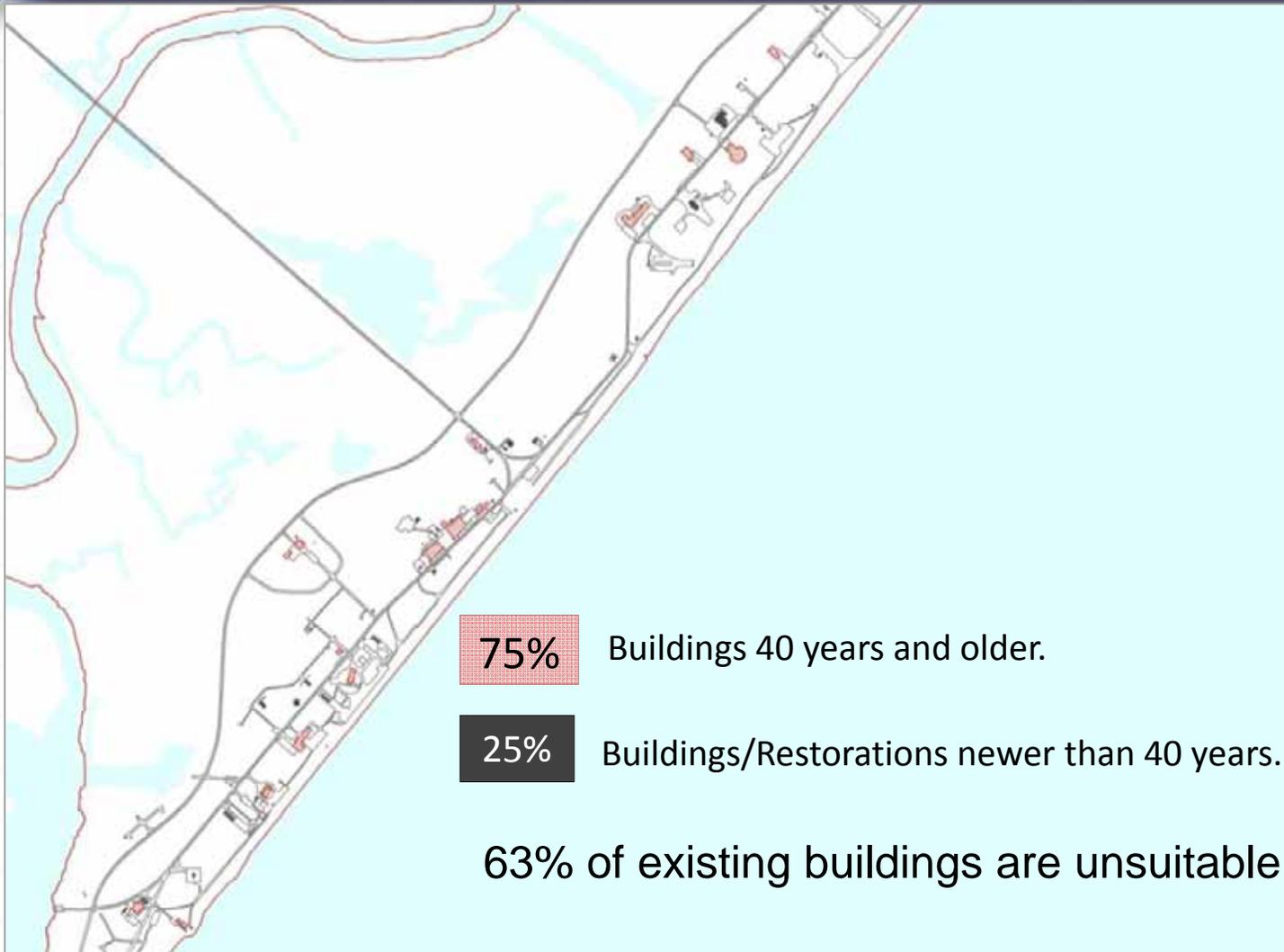


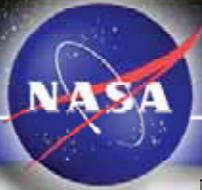
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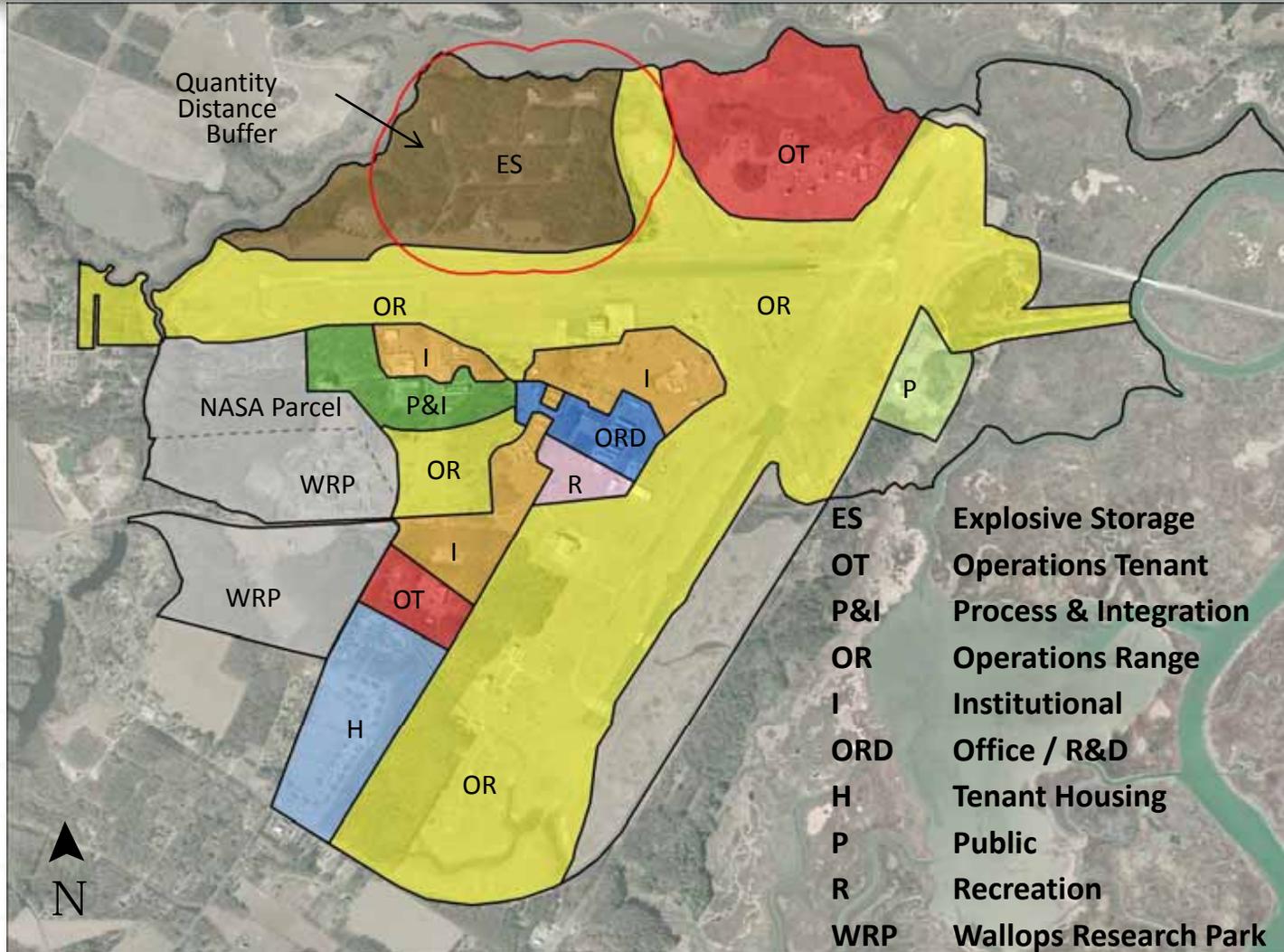


Mainland and Island: Current State of Facilities





2032 Long Term Vision

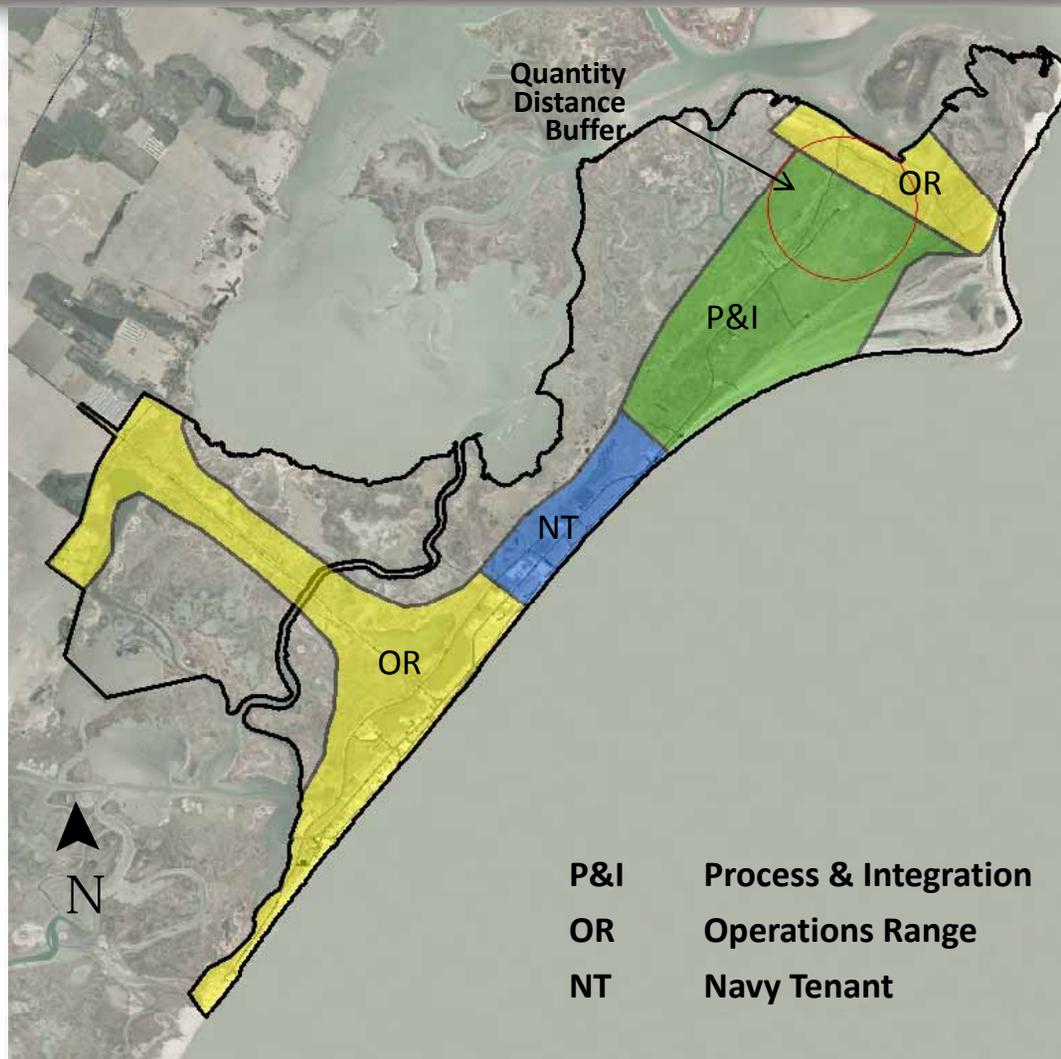


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2032 Long Term Vision



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Josh Bundick

Environmental Office

Lead, Environmental Planning Group

8/3/2011





NEPA Overview



“There shall be an early and open process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed and for identifying the significant issues related to the proposed action.”

– National Environmental Policy Act of 1969

- The **National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA)** established a national policy to protect the environment by requiring Federal agencies to consider the effects of their actions on the human environment prior to implementing the action and to give the public the opportunity to participate in the planning process.
- Purpose of NEPA is to **assess and compare** the impacts and benefits of the reasonable Action Alternatives and a No Action Alternative.





NEPA, graphically speaking





2005 Site-wide Environmental Assessment



- In January 2005, NASA issued a Final Site-Wide Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact for ongoing Institutional and Operational Programs under an annual “envelope concept”
 - 12 orbital launches
 - 60 sounding rocket launches
 - 25% increase in flight operations
 - UAV limited to 1/5 size of 757
 - 20 target launches operations.





2005 Site-wide Environmental Assessment



However, since then substantial growth has occurred and NASA has prepared several supplemental NEPA documents including:

- 2008 EA for the Wallops Research Park,
- 2009 EA for the Expansion of the Wallops Flight Facility Launch Range,
- 2010 Shoreline Restoration and Infrastructure Protection Program PEIS,
- 2011 Alternative Energy Program EA,
- 2011 Draft EA for the Main Entrance Reconfiguration, and
- Recently updated its 20-year Master Plan, which proposed several new facilities and numerous infrastructure improvements.





WFF Mission Growth



WFF Master Plan Update and Site-Wide PEIS

- COTS (Taurus II)
- ISS/CRS (Taurus II)
- Minotaur V Rocket /Lunar Mission
- ORS Missions
- New UAS Operations
- Nanopropellants
- DoD Partnerships
- Manned Space Flights
- Commercial Space Initiatives

Traditional WFF Programs

- Expanded Aeronautical Research
- Suborbital Platforms
- Operations
- Small Satellite Programs

- Shoreline Restoration
- Sounding Rocket Program Building
- Main Gate Reconfiguration
- Y-25 Upgrades
- M-Area Safety Upgrades
- Wallops Causeway Bridge Replacement
- North Wallops Island Infrastructure
- 0-C/ORS/SM-3 Rocket Launchers
- Launch Control Center
- North Wallops Island UAS Runway
- Consolidated Program Support Facility
- Range and Project Management Facility
- Science Building
- Shipping & Receiving Facility
- Island Fire Station
- Mobile Launch Pad
- Solar Arrays
- Demolition of old Wastewater Treatment Plant

Mission Growth

Institutional Project Support



Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement



- Used to evaluate broad policies, plans, and programs
- Facilitates agency planning and provides an effective analytical foundation for subsequent project-specific NEPA documents, if necessary
- Valuable decision making tool that can reduce or eliminate redundant analyses and effectively address cumulative effects
- Most rigorous level of analysis under NEPA
- Several public involvement opportunities

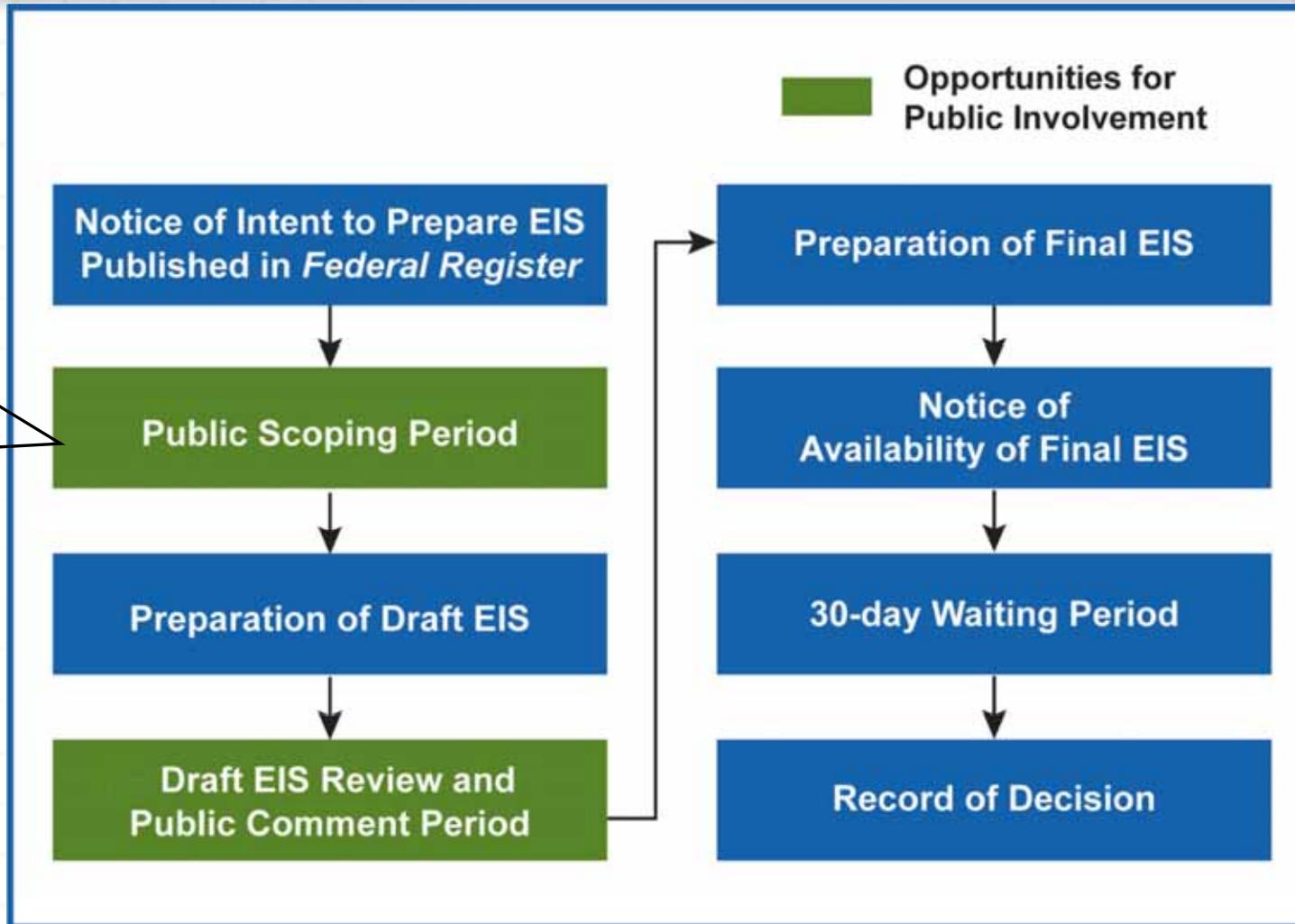




PEIS Process Flow



 Opportunities for Public Involvement



We are here in the process.





PEIS Scoping Overview



- Provides an early opportunity to help shape the PEIS analysis
 - Project alternatives
 - Environmental opportunities and concerns
- Will help NASA identify significant issues to provide particular focus
- Today the public can opt to comment to the project team on the scope of the PEIS or to submit written comments

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Scoping Process



- Public involvement is a vital part of the NEPA process
 - Public participation period July 11 – September 2, 2011
 - Project website on-line July 11, 2011
 - Federal Register Announcement July 11, 2011
 - Local newspaper Ads July 27, 28, 2011
 - Public meeting at WFF VIC August 3, 2011
- Full consideration of comments before NASA and Cooperating Agencies prepare final PEIS





Current Overall PEIS Schedule



- Scoping Summer 2011
- Availability of Draft PEIS Spring 2012
- Availability of Final PEIS Winter 2012
- Record of Decision Early 2013

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Tentative Focus Areas



- Protected and special status species,
- Wetlands,
- Noise, and
- Socioeconomic benefits

Your input will help us refine the scope and depth of the analysis

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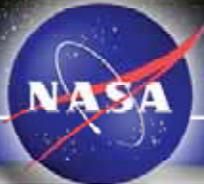
Shari Silbert

Environmental Office

Manager, Site-Wide PEIS

8/3/2011

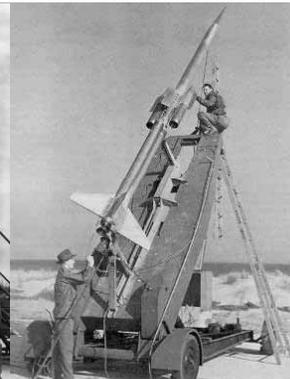
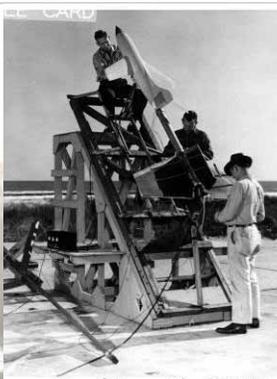




WFF Background



- Consists of three distinct landmasses - the Main Base, Wallops Mainland, and Wallops Island - totaling nearly 6,500 acres.
- At 65 years old, WFF is the oldest active launch range in the continental U.S. and the only range completely under NASA control.
- Flown thousands of research vehicles in the quest for information on the characteristics of airplanes, rockets, and spacecraft, as well as to increase the knowledge of the Earth's upper atmosphere and the near space environment.



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WFF Background



- Current flight programs and projects include:
 - sounding rockets,
 - scientific balloons,
 - manned and unmanned experimental aircraft,
 - space shuttle and orbital tracking,
 - next-generation launch vehicle development,
 - expendable launch vehicles, and
 - small and mid-size orbital spacecraft.





Goals of the 2010 National Space Policy



- Facilitate the commercial space industry.
 - The recent growth of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport on Wallops Island is a real-world example of WFF's commitment to this goal and the Nation.
- Improve federal agency partnerships through cooperation, collaboration, information sharing, and/or alignment of common pursuits with each other.
 - WFF supports aeronautical research, science technology, and education by providing other NASA centers, academia, and government agencies access to resources such as:
 - special use (i.e., restricted) airspace,
 - research runways, and
 - launch pads.
 - WFF regularly enables a wide array of U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) research and development and training missions, including target and missile launches, and aircraft development.

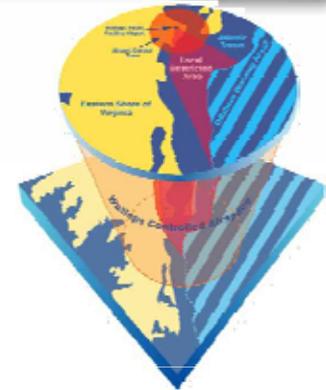




Proposed Actions



- Alternative One:
 - Expansion of Restricted Airspace (R-6604)
 - Causeway Bridge Replacement
 - Maintenance Dredging between Visitor Center and Wallops Boat Basin





Proposed Actions



- Alternative One (cont.):



- Increased U.S. Navy pilot proficiency training
- Installation of 2 permanent rocket launchers
- Basing of NASA and Navy Global Hawk UAS





Proposed Actions



- Alternative Two:
 - All of Alternative One
 - Manned Space Flight
 - USFWS Assawoman Island area – NASA Wallops Visitor Center area Land Use Exchange





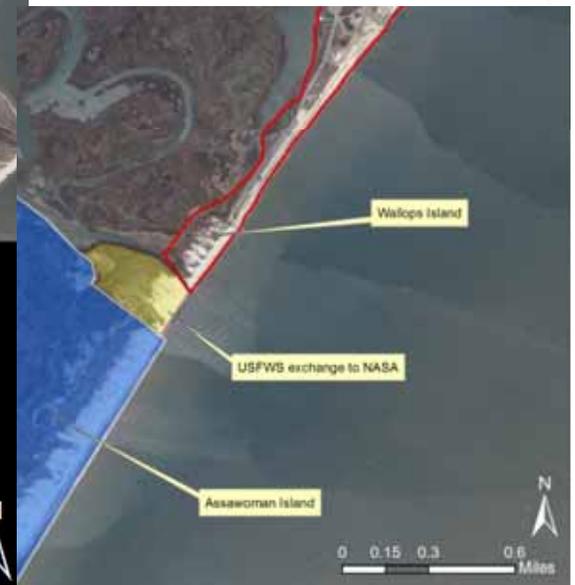
Land Use Exchange with USFWS



NASA Visitor Center



USFWS Assawoman Island



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Cooperating Agencies



- Federal Aviation Administration
 - Air Traffic Organization Office
 - Office of Commercial Space Transportation;
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service);
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Norfolk District);
- U.S. Coast Guard (Chincoteague Group);
- U.S. Navy
 - Naval Sea Systems Command
 - Naval Air Systems Command;
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Region III)





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Thank you for attending.
Your input is a valued part of this
process.

8/3/2011

