

Commercial and Recreational Fisheries Impact Survey

Wallops Flight Facility Shoreline Restoration and Infrastructure Protection Program

Background: Wallops Flight Facility (WFF) is a National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) installation located in Accomack County on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. WFF's primary launch support facilities reside on Wallops Island which is suffering from severe shoreline erosion. NASA is proposing to conduct a Shoreline Restoration and Infrastructure Protection Program (SRIPP) that would include dredging one of two borrow sites offshore of the Chincoteague area in Federal waters (Blackfish Bank Shoal or an unnamed shoal) and placing the sand on the eroded shoreline of Wallops Island. The project may also include the construction of sand retention structures (e.g., terminal groin, detached breakwaters) and extension of the existing seawall.

In summary, the project may include the following:

1. Extending Wallops Island's existing rock seawall south;
2. Constructing a rock groin (perpendicular to the shoreline) or detached breakwaters (parallel to the shoreline) in the vicinity of WFF's southernmost property boundary;
3. Placing up to an estimated 2.3 million cubic meters (3 million cubic yards) of sand dredged from either of two shoals located offshore in Federal waters; and
4. Maintaining the improved shoreline through beach renourishment cycles throughout the 50-year life span of the SRIPP - the exact locations and magnitude of renourishment cycles may fluctuate.

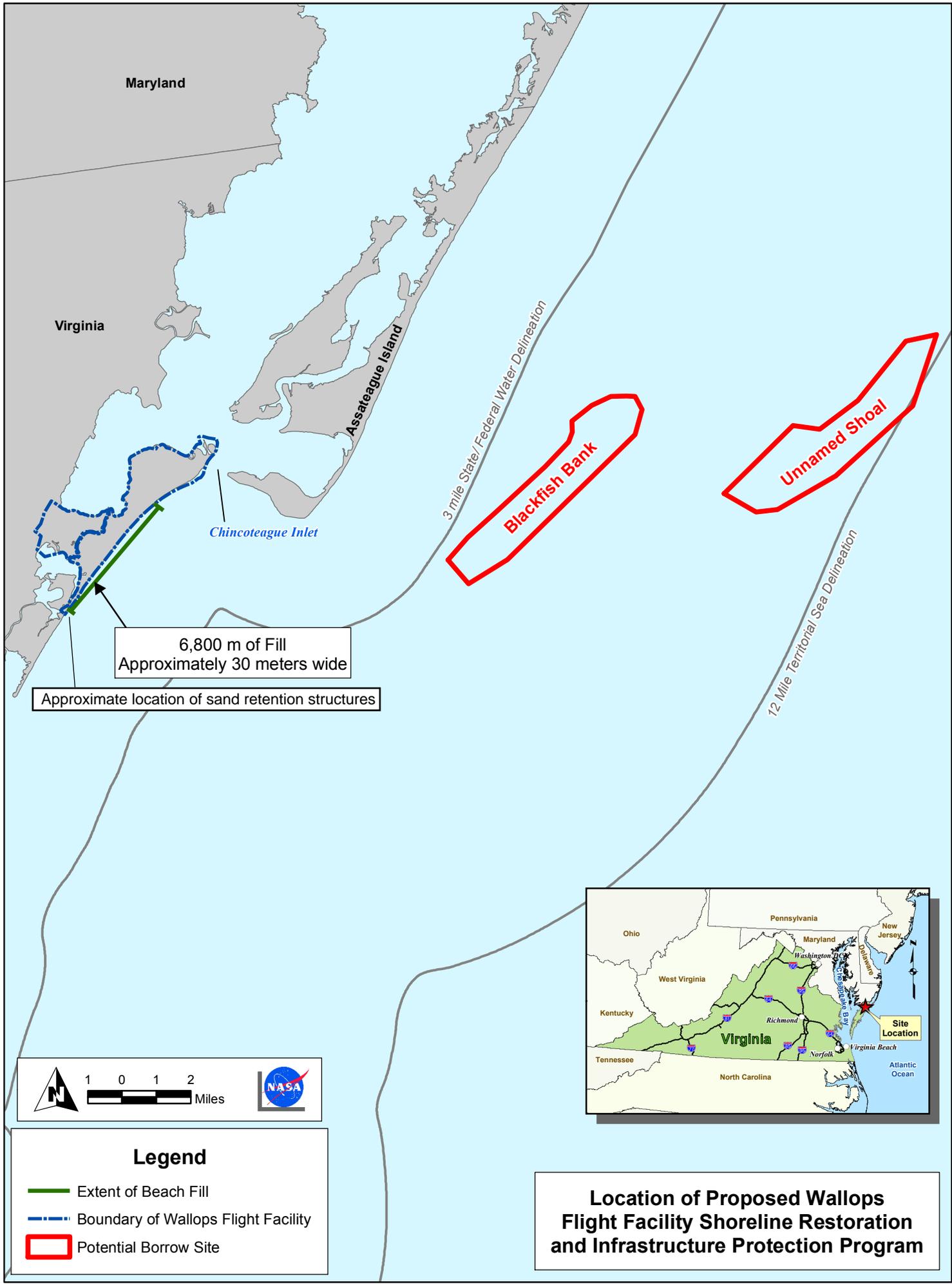
Please see the reverse side of this page for a figure showing the location of project components.

Public Participation: NASA is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) under the National Environmental Policy Act for the SRIPP. During the preparation of the EIS, NASA will provide several opportunities for public and stakeholder involvement, the first of which is a public scoping meeting to be held at the WFF Visitor Information Center on April 21, 2009 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Additionally, the public will have the opportunity to review and comment on the Draft SRIPP EIS expected to be available in the Fall of 2009. The Final SRIPP EIS is planned for completion in the Spring of 2010.

As Draft and Final versions of the EIS are released, Notices of Availability will be published in the Federal Register and local newspapers to ensure that the public is aware of the document's progress. Also, throughout the duration of the EIS process, NASA will maintain an updated website that will provide the public with the most up to date project information. The website may be accessed at: http://sites.wff.nasa.gov/code250/shoreline_eis.html.

Fisheries Concern: Will the project summarized above directly or indirectly impact commercial and/or recreational fishing?

Please help NASA answer this question by filling in the form on the attached page and faxing or mailing it in the provided self-addressed stamped envelope to the address listed on the survey page by May15, 2009.



Maryland

Virginia

Assateague Island

Chincoteague Inlet

3 mile State/Federal Water Delineation

Blackfish Bank

Unnamed Shoal

12 Mile Territorial Sea Delineation

6,800 m of Fill
Approximately 30 meters wide

Approximate location of sand retention structures



Legend

- Extent of Beach Fill
- - - Boundary of Wallops Flight Facility
- Potential Borrow Site

Location of Proposed Wallops Flight Facility Shoreline Restoration and Infrastructure Protection Program

Impacts of Sand Dredging, Beach Fill, and Construction of Sand Retention Structures on Fishing and Diving

Use the reverse side of this page for more room to write.

- 1) Type of Fishing or Diving:
Commercial__ Guide__ Recreational__
- 2) Target species of fish and/or shellfish: _____
- 3) What types of habitat are you targeting?
hard bottom__ sand bottom ____ artificial reef ____ open water ____
- 4) Do you fish on the sites outlined in green or red on the map?
No____ Yes_____

If yes, what species are you targeting?_____

What type(s) of gear do you use?_____

What seasons do you fish there?
Spring__ Summer__ Fall__ Winter__

- 5) Do you fish within about 5 miles of the sites outlined in green or red on the map?
No____ Yes____ if yes;
Blackfish Bank_____ Unnamed shoal_____ Wallops Island Shoreline_____

If yes, what species are you targeting?_____

What type(s) of gear do you use?_____

What seasons do you fish there? _____

Spring__ Summer__ Fall__ Winter__

- 6) Are you concerned that dredging on these sites, placing fill on the Wallops Island beach and the construction of sand retention structures near the shoreline will:

a) Directly impact your fishing activities? No____ Yes____ If yes, how?

b) Indirectly impact your fishing activities? No____ Yes____ If yes, how?

- 7) Are there other things that you think may be impacted or should be considered?

Please submit your completed form by May 15, 2009 to the address below. Thank you very much for your assistance. If you would like more information, please contact:

250/NEPA Manager

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