



Goddard Space  
Flight Center

# Wallops Flight Facility Overview

October 2015





# Wallops Mission



LAUNCH RANGE SERVICES - MISSION FORMULATION - PROJECT MANAGEMENT - TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT

**INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION**  
230 miles

**EXPENDABLE LAUNCH VEHICLE**  
Low-Earth orbit



## OCEAN TO THE MOON **WALLOPS** DELIVERS

**SOUNDING ROCKETS**  
Up to 900 miles

**BALLOONS**  
Up to 120,000 feet

**UAV**  
Up to 65,000 feet

**AIRBORNE SCIENCE**  
Up to 30,000 feet

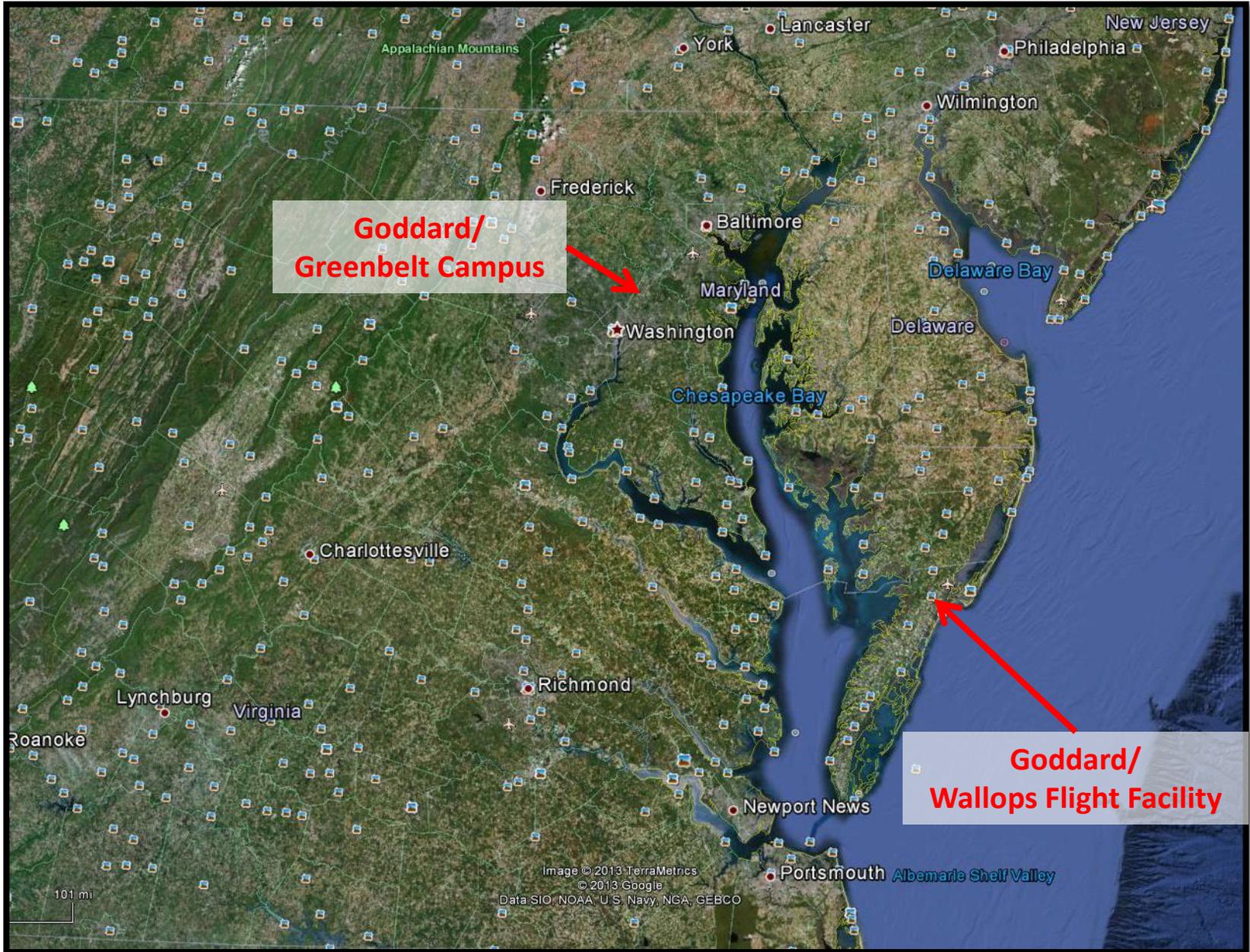


**IN-SITU SCIENCE**

ENGINEERING - ORBITAL TRACKING - EARTH AND OCEAN SCIENCE - SAFETY - EDUCATION



# Our Location





# Wallops by the numbers



- \$1.2B in assets  
(NASA and tenants)
- Estimated economic impact:  
\$829.3M and 5,875 jobs (U.S.)
- Campus
  - More than 6,000 acres  
on three land parcels
- Workforce
  - About 270 civil servants,  
800 contractors, and  
600 tenant personnel
  - About half live in VA





# Wallops Flight Facility



**Three Major Parcels** **6000 Acres**

**Wallops Main Base** **1900 Acres**

- Administrative & Technical Offices
- Tracking & Data Acquisition
- Range Control Center
- Ordnance Storage/Processing
- R&D, Processing Facilities
- Research Airport
- Navy admin & NOAA tracking facilities
- Navy & USCG housing

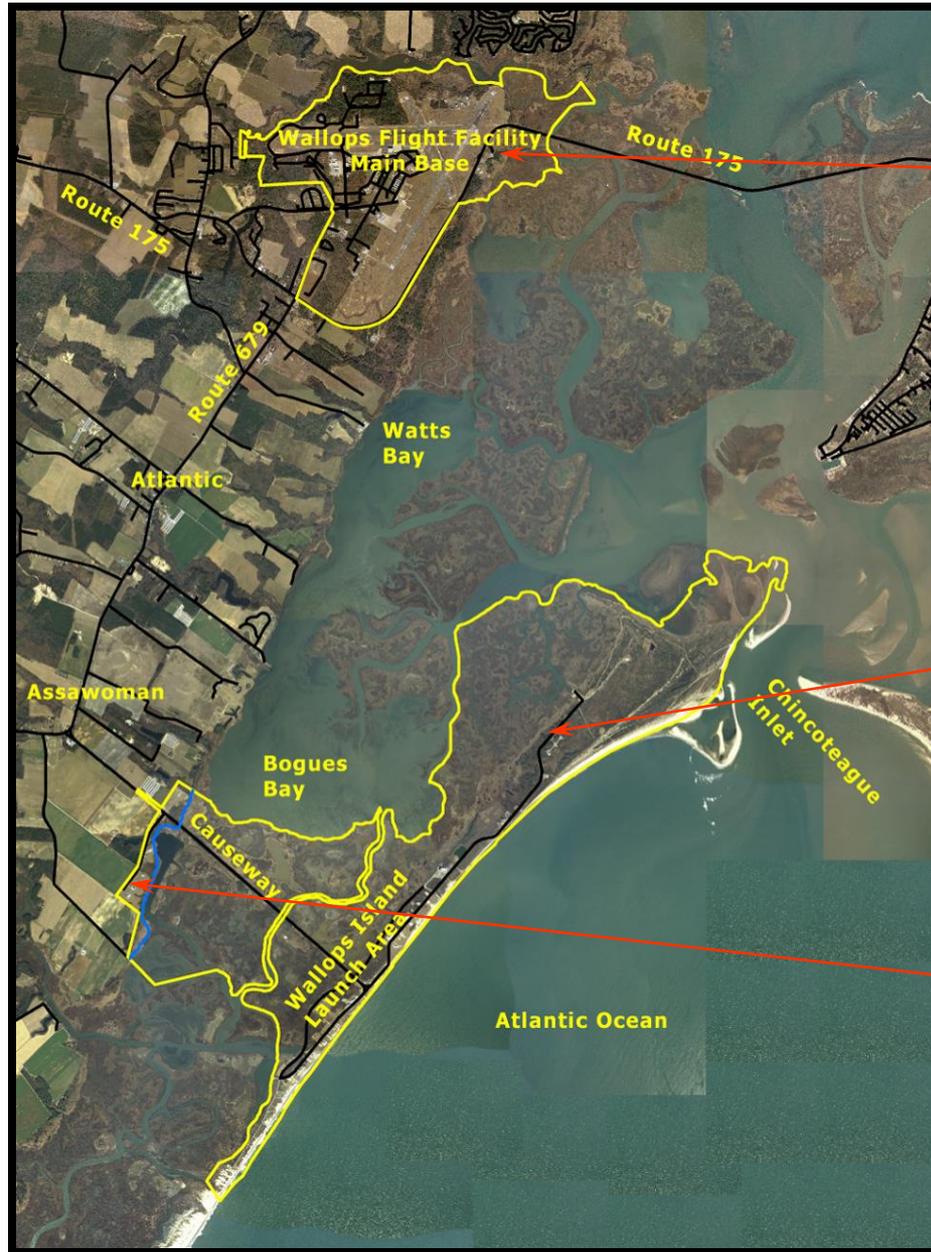
**Wallops Island** **3000 Acres**

- Launch Sites
- Blockhouses
- Radar
- Processing Facilities
- Navy Operational Facilities

**Wallops Mainland** **100 Acres**

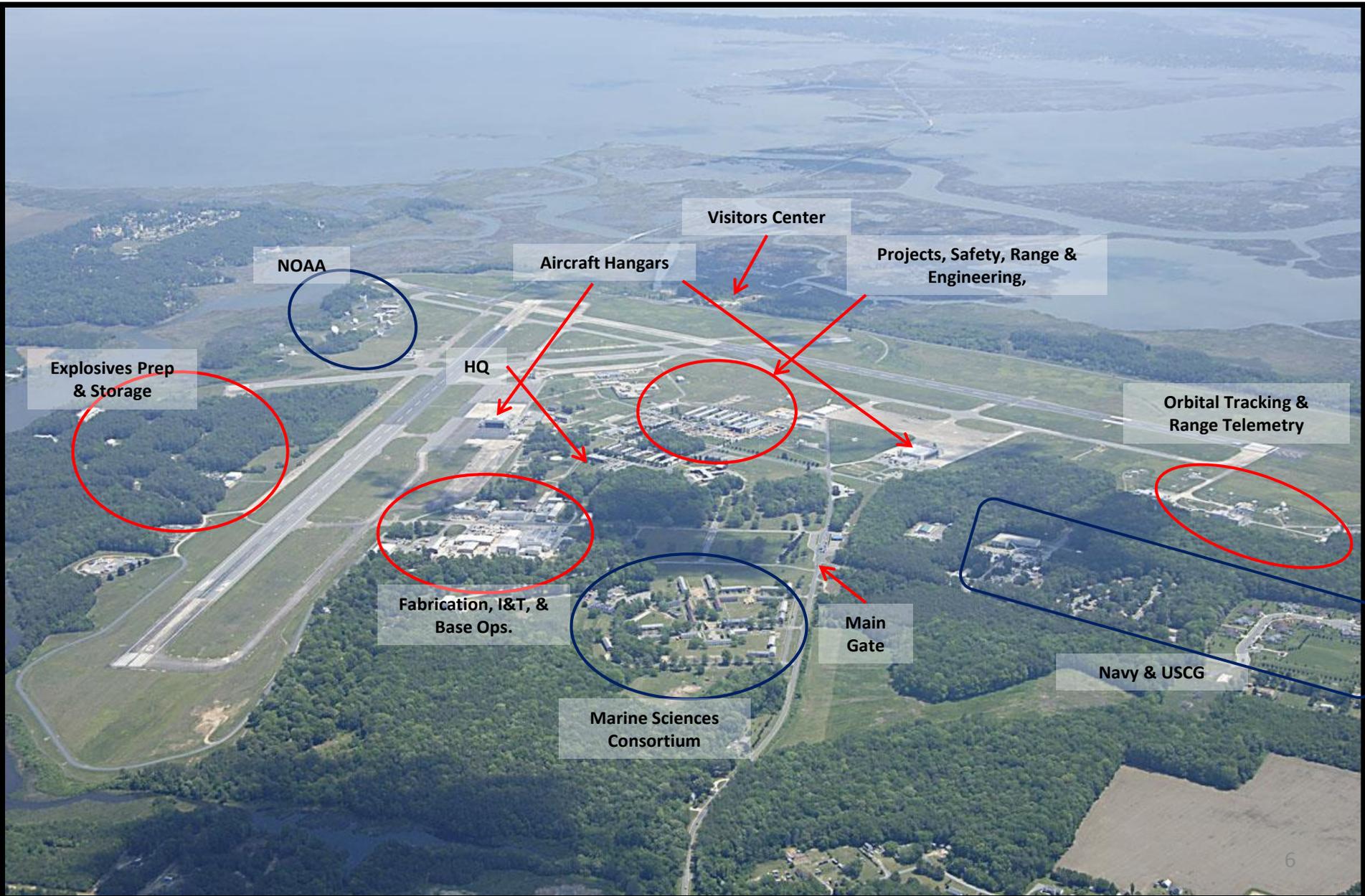
- Tracking & Data Acquisition

**Marshland** **1000 Acres**





# Wallops Main Base



Explosives Prep & Storage

NOAA

Aircraft Hangars

Visitors Center

Projects, Safety, Range & Engineering,

HQ

Orbital Tracking & Range Telemetry

Fabrication, I&T, & Base Ops.

Marine Sciences Consortium

Main Gate

Navy & USCG



# Wallops Island





Wallops Island Gate

Boat Basin

I&T Facilities

Navy Facilities

Blockhouse

Range Instrumentation

I&T Facilities

NASA Pad 5  
(Currently Inactive)

Project Support

NASA Pad 4  
(Targets/Suborbital)

Blockhouses

I&T Facilities

NASA Pad 3  
(Targets/Suborbital)

NASA UAS Runway

NASA Pad 2  
(Suborbital)

NASA Pad 1  
(Suborbital)

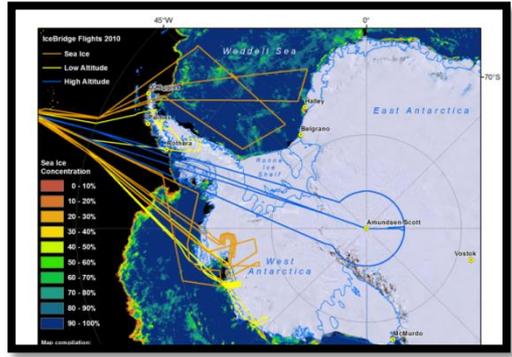
MARS Pad 0A  
(ELV)

MARS Pad 0B  
(ELV)



# Major Wallops Island Facilities

- Wallops Research Carriers include
  - Sounding Rockets
  - Scientific Balloons
  - Science aircraft (piloted & UAS)
  - Small satellites
- Research Carriers support
  - Cutting edge Earth & Space science
  - Calibration/validation of satellites
  - Technology demonstrations
  - Hands-on STEM-based student flight projects





# Airborne Science



- GSFC's Aircraft Project Office conducts frequent global aircraft investigations in support for NASA's Earth scientists
  - Advance Earth System Science
  - Field Campaigns to complement Satellite Measurements
  - New measurement capability demonstrations
  
- GSFC/WFF - Managed Aircraft
  - P-3
  - C-23 Sherpa
  - C-130
  - Commercially available a/c (Twin Otter, Proteus)
  - Unmanned Aerial Systems





*Water Ingestion Testing*



*Aircraft Noise Testing*



*Wake Vortex Studies*

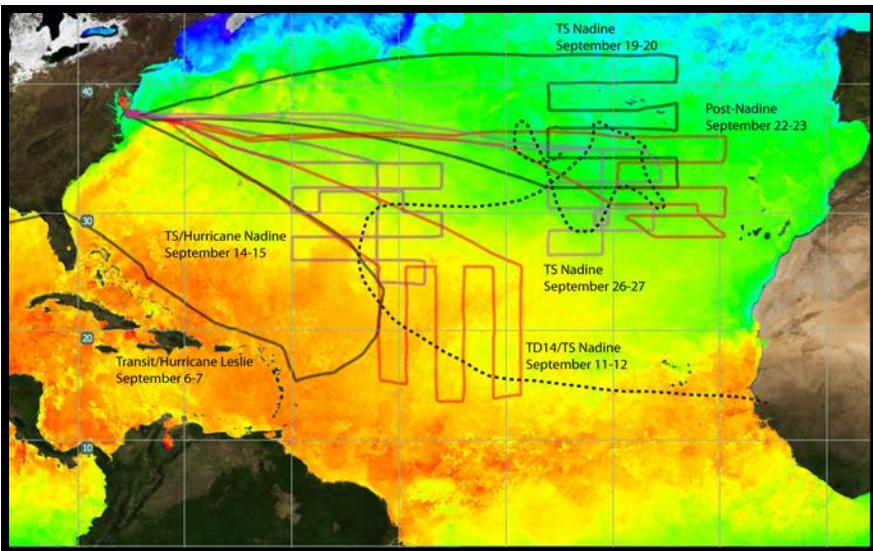
- Primary Missions:
  - Aircraft & airport research
  - Basing for WFF, visiting NASA, & tenant aircraft
  - Support to WFF Launch Range
  - Testing/training site for other Federal agencies
- 3 main runways + 2 UAS runway
  - 2 runways >8000 feet
  - UAS Runway (1500' length)
  - Under Construction new UAS Runway (3500' length scheduled completion Spring 2016)

## Research Examples

- Water Ingestion Testing
- Runway Friction Research
- UAV flight test operations
- Synthetic vision & runway incursion research
- Aircraft noise measurement
- Landing system instrumentation demonstration<sup>11</sup>



- Hurricane & Severe Storm Sentinel (HS-3)
  - A three-year NASA Earth Venture project to study physical processes that control storm intensity
  - Global Hawk unmanned aircraft operate from Wallops during August-October & deploy during early weather system formulation
  - NOAA continued HS-3 program objectives under new SHOUT (Sensing Hazards with Operational Unmanned Technology) program in 2015





# Partnerships



- VA Tech-led team selected by FAA as one of six UAS Test Sites
  - Mission: To aid in development of processes/technologies needed to allow UAS operations in the national airspace system
- Wallops Research Park
  - State, County project to foster economic growth, research, educational activities
  - Completed Dec. 2014
  - Ready for customers!



USCG Scan Eagle UAS



Rigel UAS



New taxiway links to research park



Wallops Research Park entrance

