

Appendix C: Cultural Resources Consultation for Phase 1  
(To be included in Final EA)

This page intentionally left blank.

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

**NASA Goddard Space Flight Center**  
Greenbelt, MD 20771



January 20, 2026

Julie Langan  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Virginia Department of Historic Resources  
2801 Kensington Avenue  
Richmond, VA 23221

**SUBJECT: National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Consultation for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Shoreline Protection Program at Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility Wallops Island, Virginia**

Ms. Langan,

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) proposes to implement measures to protect the beach along the Wallops Island shoreline at Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia (Enclosure 1). The purpose is to protect the Wallops Island shoreline through beach renourishment, construction of additional breakwaters, and/or repair and extend existing seawall in order to reduce the potential for damage to, or loss of, NASA, U.S. Navy (Navy), U.S. Air Force (Air Force), and Virginia Spaceport Authority (VSA) Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport (MARS) assets on Wallops Island from effects associated with storm events and sea level rise. The beach berm and dune system that was established to protect NASA's Wallops Island launch range infrastructure in 2012 has been subject to erosion through storm wind and wave damage. The originally designed and constructed beach system served its intended purpose of reducing damage to the range assets; however, a notable portion of sub-aerial (i.e., on land surface) sand is often relocated by storm winds and waves with a majority of this sand volume transported to the north end of Wallops Island. The effects of storms are most apparent within the southern half of the Wallops Island beach, where the majority of the highly critical launch assets are located. Within this area, the seaward half of the beach berm and dune system must be maintained to the level of functionality it was originally intended through periodic beach renourishment and shoreline protection.

NASA has determined that the proposed project is an undertaking as defined in 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 800.16(y) and it is a type of activity that has the potential to cause effects on historic properties. NASA has prepared an Environmental Assessment to evaluate the potential environmental effects of both enhancing and protecting the shoreline on

Wallops Island with the proposed Federal action alternatives. The Shoreline Protection Program (SPP) Tiered EA has been prepared by NASA in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 United States [U.S.] Code [U.S.C.] 4321-4347); NASA procedures for implementing NEPA (14 CFR 1216.3); and NASA Procedural Requirement (NPR) *Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act and Executive Order 12114* (NPR 8580.1). The U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Norfolk District are Cooperating Agencies with NASA serving as the lead agency.

The purpose of this letter is to initiate consultation pursuant to the terms of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, and its implementing regulations found at 36 CFR § 800. This letter serves to define the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the undertaking and gauge project effects located within the bounds of the proposed undertaking.

### **Description of Undertaking**

Consistent with the Action Alternatives described in detail in the 2010 Final SRIPP PEIS (NASA 2010), reexamined in the 2013 Final Post-Hurricane Sandy EA (NASA 2013), and implemented following completion of the 2019 Final Shoreline Enhancement and Restoration Project EA (NASA 2019), NASA's proposed undertaking would implement measures to protect the beach along the Wallops Island shoreline infrastructure protection area. The undertaking could involve a combination of sand renourishment within an approximate 15,000-foot section of shoreline from the south property line on Wallops Island north to the location of the fire station; breakwater construction nearshore between existing sets of breakwaters; as well as repairs and extension of the existing seawall. Shoreline stabilization activities could occur in phases depending on a number of factors including: infrastructure prioritized for protection, the pace and location of erosion, and the availability of funding. For example, a section of beach that experiences rapid erosion in a storm event could be renourished followed by construction of breakwaters in one year, and in another year additional renourishment, breakwaters construction or both could occur in another area. Renourishment processes (i.e., beach fill mobilization, dredging and sand placement, and pre- and post- dredging surveys) under the proposed undertaking would be consistent with those described in detail in previous NEPA (NASA 2010; NASA 2013; NASA 2019). For this proposed undertaking, sand material for beach renourishment would come from Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Unnamed Shoal A. All dredging and equipment placement would take place in areas previously surveyed (NASA 2010, 2013, 2019).

### **No Action Alternative**

Under the No Action Alternative, NASA would not renourish the Wallops Island shoreline infrastructure protection area beach and dune system; provide additional breakwaters to reduce the potential for damage to, or loss of, NASA, Navy, Air Force, and VSA MARS assets on Wallops Island from storm events and sea level rise; or repair or extend the existing seawall.

### **Area of Potential Effects (36 CFR § 800.4(a)(1))**

An APE is defined in 36 CFR § 800.16(d) as “the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist.” The APE is influenced by the scale and nature of the undertaking and may be different for various kinds of effects caused by the undertaking. The APE is influenced by the scale and nature of the undertaking and may be different for various kinds of effects caused by the undertaking. For this undertaking, NASA determined that the APE includes the sand dredging from Unnamed Shoal A, pumpout buoy area, beach renourishment area, and construction of offshore breakwaters (Enclosure 2).

### **Identification of Historic Properties (36 CFR § 800.4(b))**

Pursuant to the NHPA, Section 106 Implementing Regulations at 36 CFR § 800.4(b), qualified preservation professionals have carried out the identification of historic properties within this project’s APE in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards and Guidelines for Identification.

Two archaeological surveys were completed to investigate the APE for the *2010 Final SRIPP PEIS*. In 2009, an investigation of the proposed groin, breakwater, and shoreline that would be impacted by the SRIPP project was completed. This investigation included pedestrian survey of the Wallops Island shoreline, archaeological monitoring of the installation of geotextile tubes along the shoreline, a diving survey of the proposed groin location, and a remote sensing survey of the proposed breakwater area. The investigation did not identify any archaeological resources in the areas and no additional work was recommended (Randolph *et al.* 2009). The second investigation for the *2010 Final SRIPP PEIS* was conducted in 2010. This survey investigated the proposed offshore sand borrow areas using underwater remote sensing. No underwater archaeological resources were identified during the survey and no additional work was recommended for the borrow area (Randolph *et al.* 2010).

No previously identified archaeological sites are located in the APE for the project. Three previously identified archaeological sites are located on Wallops Island in the vicinity of the APE. The Military Earthworks site (44AC0089) is a Revolutionary War gun emplacement located at the northern end of Wallops Island. The site was subjected to additional investigations and recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP. Site 44AC0159 is an unnamed site located at the southern end of Wallops Island. The site is described as a shell pile or shell midden and has been determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP. Site 44AC0459 is a trash scatter associated with the Coast Guard Life Saving Station and Observation Tower. This site was also determined not eligible for the NRHP (NASA 2022a).

### **Results of Identification and Evaluation (36 CFR § 800.4(d))**

There are no known historic properties within the APE at Wallops Island. In the unlikely event of an inadvertent discovery of previously unrecorded or unevaluated cultural resources during ground-disturbing construction, the work would immediately stop, and the Wallops Flight Facility Cultural Resources Manager would be notified. The Wallops Flight Facility Cultural Resources Manager would follow the steps outlined in Stipulation XII, *Post Review Discoveries*, of the executed 2014 Programmatic Agreement (NASA 2014, 2022).

## Conclusion

NASA has determined that the implementation of the undertaking warrants a finding of *No Historic Properties Affected* per 36 CFR Section 800.4(d)(1). NASA invites you to comment on this undertaking and our determination of effects. In addition to your office, NASA is consulting with Tribal Nations who may have cultural and/or historical interests in the area.

Please respond within thirty (30) days of receipt of this letter to Irene Romero at [irene.j.romero@nasa.gov](mailto:irene.j.romero@nasa.gov). Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*Irene J. Romero*

Irene Romero  
NASA Goddard Cultural Resources Manager  
8800 Greenbelt Road  
Greenbelt, MD 20771

## Enclosures:

- 1- Map depicting the location of Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia
- 2- Map showing the Area of Potential Effects
- 3- References Cited

*This page intentionally left blank*

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

**NASA Goddard Space Flight Center**  
Greenbelt, MD 20771



January 20, 2026

Wenonah Haire, DMD  
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
Catawba Indian Nation  
1536 Tom Steven Road  
Rock Hill, SC 29730

**SUBJECT: National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Consultation for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Shoreline Protection Program at Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility Wallops Island, Virginia**

Dear Ms. Haire,

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) proposes to implement measures to protect the beach along the Wallops Island shoreline at Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia (Enclosure 1). The purpose is to protect the Wallops Island shoreline through beach renourishment, construction of additional breakwaters, and/or repair and extend existing seawall in order to reduce the potential for damage to, or loss of, NASA, United States (U.S.) Navy (Navy), U.S. Air Force (Air Force), and Virginia Spaceport Authority (VSA) Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport (MARS) assets on Wallops Island from effects associated with storm events and sea level rise. The beach berm and dune system that was established to protect NASA's Wallops Island launch range infrastructure in 2012 has been subject to erosion through storm wind and wave damage. The originally designed and constructed beach system served its intended purpose of reducing damage to the range assets; however, a notable portion of sub-aerial (i.e., on land surface) sand is often relocated by storm winds and waves with a majority of this sand volume transported to the north end of Wallops Island. The effects of storms are most apparent within the southern half of the Wallops Island beach, where the majority of the highly critical launch assets are located. Within this area, the seaward half of the beach berm and dune system must be maintained to the level of functionality it was originally intended through periodic beach renourishment and shoreline protection.

NASA has determined that the proposed project is an undertaking as defined in 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 800.16(y) and it is a type of activity that has the potential to cause effects on historic properties. NASA has prepared an Environmental Assessment to evaluate the potential environmental effects of both enhancing and protecting the shoreline on Wallops Island with the proposed Federal action alternatives. The Shoreline Protection Program (SPP) Tiered EA has been prepared by NASA in accordance with the requirements of the



National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 United States [U.S.] Code [U.S.C.] 4321-4347); NASA procedures for implementing NEPA (14 CFR 1216.3); and NASA Procedural Requirement (NPR) *Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act and Executive Order 12114* (NPR 8580.1). The U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Norfolk District are Cooperating Agencies with NASA serving as the lead agency.

The purpose of this letter is to initiate consultation pursuant to the terms of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, and its implementing regulations found at 36 CFR § 800. This letter serves to define the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the undertaking and gauge project effects located within the bounds of the proposed undertaking.

### **Description of Undertaking**

Consistent with the Action Alternatives described in detail in the 2010 Final SRIPP PEIS (NASA 2010), reexamined in the 2013 Final Post-Hurricane Sandy EA (NASA 2013), and implemented following completion of the 2019 Final Shoreline Enhancement and Restoration Project EA (NASA 2019), NASA's proposed undertaking would implement measures to protect the beach along the Wallops Island shoreline infrastructure protection area. The undertaking could involve a combination of sand renourishment within an approximate 15,000-foot section of shoreline from the south property line on Wallops Island north to the location of the fire station; breakwater construction nearshore between existing sets of breakwaters; as well as repairs and extension of the existing seawall. Shoreline stabilization activities could occur in phases depending on a number of factors including: infrastructure prioritized for protection, the pace and location of erosion, and the availability of funding. For example, a section of beach that experiences rapid erosion in a storm event could be renourished followed by construction of breakwaters in one year, and in another year additional renourishment, breakwaters construction or both could occur in another area. Renourishment processes (i.e., beach fill mobilization, dredging and sand placement, and pre- and post- dredging surveys) under the proposed undertaking would be consistent with those described in detail in previous NEPA (NASA 2010; NASA 2013; NASA 2019). For this proposed undertaking, sand material for beach renourishment would come from Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Unnamed Shoal A. All dredging and equipment placement would take place in areas previously surveyed (NASA 2010, 2013, 2019).

### **No Action Alternative**

Under the No Action Alternative, NASA would not renourish the Wallops Island shoreline infrastructure protection area beach and dune system; provide additional breakwaters to reduce the potential for damage to, or loss of, NASA, Navy, Air Force, and VSA MARS assets on Wallops Island from storm events and sea level rise; or repair or extend the existing seawall.

### **Area of Potential Effects (36 CFR § 800.4(a)(1))**

An APE is defined in 36 CFR § 800.16(d) as “the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist.” The APE is influenced by the scale and nature of the undertaking and may be different for various kinds of effects caused by the undertaking. The APE is influenced by the scale and nature of the undertaking and may be different for various

kinds of effects caused by the undertaking. For this undertaking, NASA determined that the APE includes the sand dredging from Unnamed Shoal A, pumpout buoy area, beach renourishment area, and construction of offshore breakwaters (Enclosure 2).

### **Identification of Historic Properties (36 CFR § 800.4(b))**

Pursuant to the NHPA, Section 106 Implementing Regulations at 36 CFR § 800.4(b), qualified preservation professionals have carried out the identification of historic properties within this project's APE in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Identification.

Two archaeological surveys were completed to investigate the APE for the *2010 Final SRIPP PEIS*. In 2009, an investigation of the proposed groin, breakwater, and shoreline that would be impacted by the SRIPP project was completed. This investigation included pedestrian survey of the Wallops Island shoreline, archaeological monitoring of the installation of geotextile tubes along the shoreline, a diving survey of the proposed groin location, and a remote sensing survey of the proposed breakwater area. The investigation did not identify any archaeological resources in the areas and no additional work was recommended (Randolph *et al.* 2009). The second investigation for the *2010 Final SRIPP PEIS* was conducted in 2010. This survey investigated the proposed offshore sand borrow areas using underwater remote sensing. No underwater archaeological resources were identified during the survey and no additional work was recommended for the borrow area (Randolph *et al.* 2010).

No previously identified archaeological sites are located in the APE for the project. Three previously identified archaeological sites are located on Wallops Island in the vicinity of the APE. The Military Earthworks site (44AC0089) is a Revolutionary War gun emplacement located at the northern end of Wallops Island. The site was subjected to additional investigations and recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP. Site 44AC0159 is an unnamed site located at the southern end of Wallops Island. The site is described as a shell pile or shell midden and has been determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP. Site 44AC0459 is a trash scatter associated with the Coast Guard Life Saving Station and Observation Tower. This site was also determined not eligible for the NRHP (NASA 2022a).

In accordance with Executive Order (EO) 13175, *Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments*; EO 12372, *Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs*; and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementation regulations found at 36 CFR § 800.2, § 800.3, and § 800.4, NASA respectfully requests your assistance in identifying the following:

- traditional resources or sacred sites that may be located within the current APE;
- historic properties in the APE of which we may not be aware; and/or
- your Tribe's interest in participating in additional consultation.

### **Results of Identification and Evaluation (36 CFR § 800.4(d))**

There are no known historic properties within the APE at Wallops Island. In the unlikely event of an inadvertent discovery of previously unrecorded or unevaluated cultural resources during ground-disturbing construction, the work would immediately stop, and the Wallops Flight

Facility Cultural Resources Manager would be notified. The Wallops Flight Facility Cultural Resources Manager would follow the appropriate protocol for inadvertent discoveries.

### **Conclusion**

Pursuant to 36 CFR Section 800.4(d)(1), NASA has reached a preliminary determination of no historic properties affected for the proposed undertaking with respect to historic properties in the APE. However, prior to finalizing our effects determination, we would like to solicit input regarding Tribal resources that may be present within the APE.

If you request additional consultation, NASA will work with your office to adopt procedures that will meet your Tribe's needs and requirements for continued consultation.

In order to address your concerns in a timely manner for both the Tribe and the proposed undertaking, please respond to this letter within thirty (30) days of receipt to Irene Romero at [irene.j.romero@nasa.gov](mailto:irene.j.romero@nasa.gov). Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*Irene J. Romero*

Irene Romero  
NASA Goddard Cultural Resources Manager  
8800 Greenbelt Road  
Greenbelt, MD 20771

### Enclosures:

- 1- Map depicting the location of Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia
- 2- Map showing the Area of Potential Effects
- 3- References Cited

*This page intentionally left blank*

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

**NASA Goddard Space Flight Center**  
Greenbelt, MD 20771



January 20, 2026

Stephen Adkins  
Chief  
Chickahominy Indian Tribe  
8200 Lott Cary Road  
Providence Forge, VA 23140

**SUBJECT: National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Consultation for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Shoreline Protection Program at Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility Wallops Island, Virginia**

Dear Chief Adkins,

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) proposes to implement measures to protect the beach along the Wallops Island shoreline at Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia (Enclosure 1). The purpose is to protect the Wallops Island shoreline through beach renourishment, construction of additional breakwaters, and/or repair and extend existing seawall in order to reduce the potential for damage to, or loss of, NASA, United States (U.S.) Navy (Navy), U.S. Air Force (Air Force), and Virginia Spaceport Authority (VSA) Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport (MARS) assets on Wallops Island from effects associated with storm events and sea level rise. The beach berm and dune system that was established to protect NASA's Wallops Island launch range infrastructure in 2012 has been subject to erosion through storm wind and wave damage. The originally designed and constructed beach system served its intended purpose of reducing damage to the range assets; however, a notable portion of sub-aerial (i.e., on land surface) sand is often relocated by storm winds and waves with a majority of this sand volume transported to the north end of Wallops Island. The effects of storms are most apparent within the southern half of the Wallops Island beach, where the majority of the highly critical launch assets are located. Within this area, the seaward half of the beach berm and dune system must be maintained to the level of functionality it was originally intended through periodic beach renourishment and shoreline protection.

NASA has determined that the proposed project is an undertaking as defined in 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 800.16(y) and it is a type of activity that has the potential to cause effects on historic properties. NASA has prepared an Environmental Assessment to evaluate the potential environmental effects of both enhancing and protecting the shoreline on Wallops Island with the proposed Federal action alternatives. The Shoreline Protection Program (SPP) Tiered EA has been prepared by NASA in accordance with the requirements of the

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 United States [U.S.] Code [U.S.C.] 4321-4347); NASA procedures for implementing NEPA (14 CFR 1216.3); and NASA Procedural Requirement (NPR) *Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act and Executive Order 12114* (NPR 8580.1). The U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Norfolk District are Cooperating Agencies with NASA serving as the lead agency.

The purpose of this letter is to initiate consultation pursuant to the terms of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, and its implementing regulations found at 36 CFR § 800. This letter serves to define the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the undertaking and gauge project effects located within the bounds of the proposed undertaking.

### **Description of Undertaking**

Consistent with the Action Alternatives described in detail in the 2010 Final SRIPP PEIS (NASA 2010), reexamined in the 2013 Final Post-Hurricane Sandy EA (NASA 2013), and implemented following completion of the 2019 Final Shoreline Enhancement and Restoration Project EA (NASA 2019), NASA's proposed undertaking would implement measures to protect the beach along the Wallops Island shoreline infrastructure protection area. The undertaking could involve a combination of sand renourishment within an approximate 15,000-foot section of shoreline from the south property line on Wallops Island north to the location of the fire station; breakwater construction nearshore between existing sets of breakwaters; as well as repairs and extension of the existing seawall. Shoreline stabilization activities could occur in phases depending on a number of factors including: infrastructure prioritized for protection, the pace and location of erosion, and the availability of funding. For example, a section of beach that experiences rapid erosion in a storm event could be renourished followed by construction of breakwaters in one year, and in another year additional renourishment, breakwaters construction or both could occur in another area. Renourishment processes (i.e., beach fill mobilization, dredging and sand placement, and pre- and post- dredging surveys) under the proposed undertaking would be consistent with those described in detail in previous NEPA (NASA 2010; NASA 2013; NASA 2019). For this proposed undertaking, sand material for beach renourishment would come from Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Unnamed Shoal A. All dredging and equipment placement would take place in areas previously surveyed (NASA 2010, 2013, 2019).

### **No Action Alternative**

Under the No Action Alternative, NASA would not renourish the Wallops Island shoreline infrastructure protection area beach and dune system; provide additional breakwaters to reduce the potential for damage to, or loss of, NASA, Navy, Air Force, and VSA MARS assets on Wallops Island from storm events and sea level rise; or repair or extend the existing seawall.

### **Area of Potential Effects (36 CFR § 800.4(a)(1))**

An APE is defined in 36 CFR § 800.16(d) as “the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist.” The APE is influenced by the scale and nature of the undertaking and may be different for various kinds of effects caused by the undertaking. The APE is influenced by the scale and nature of the undertaking and may be different for various

kinds of effects caused by the undertaking. For this undertaking, NASA determined that the APE includes the sand dredging from Unnamed Shoal A, pumpout buoy area, beach renourishment area, and construction of offshore breakwaters (Enclosure 2).

### **Identification of Historic Properties (36 CFR § 800.4(b))**

Pursuant to the NHPA, Section 106 Implementing Regulations at 36 CFR § 800.4(b), qualified preservation professionals have carried out the identification of historic properties within this project's APE in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Identification.

Two archaeological surveys were completed to investigate the APE for the *2010 Final SRIPP PEIS*. In 2009, an investigation of the proposed groin, breakwater, and shoreline that would be impacted by the SRIPP project was completed. This investigation included pedestrian survey of the Wallops Island shoreline, archaeological monitoring of the installation of geotextile tubes along the shoreline, a diving survey of the proposed groin location, and a remote sensing survey of the proposed breakwater area. The investigation did not identify any archaeological resources in the areas and no additional work was recommended (Randolph *et al.* 2009). The second investigation for the *2010 Final SRIPP PEIS* was conducted in 2010. This survey investigated the proposed offshore sand borrow areas using underwater remote sensing. No underwater archaeological resources were identified during the survey and no additional work was recommended for the borrow area (Randolph *et al.* 2010).

No previously identified archaeological sites are located in the APE for the project. Three previously identified archaeological sites are located on Wallops Island in the vicinity of the APE. The Military Earthworks site (44AC0089) is a Revolutionary War gun emplacement located at the northern end of Wallops Island. The site was subjected to additional investigations and recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP. Site 44AC0159 is an unnamed site located at the southern end of Wallops Island. The site is described as a shell pile or shell midden and has been determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP. Site 44AC0459 is a trash scatter associated with the Coast Guard Life Saving Station and Observation Tower. This site was also determined not eligible for the NRHP (NASA 2022a).

In accordance with Executive Order (EO) 13175, *Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments*; EO 12372, *Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs*; and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementation regulations found at 36 CFR § 800.2, § 800.3, and § 800.4, NASA respectfully requests your assistance in identifying the following:

- traditional resources or sacred sites that may be located within the current APE;
- historic properties in the APE of which we may not be aware; and/or
- your Tribe's interest in participating in additional consultation.

### **Results of Identification and Evaluation (36 CFR § 800.4(d))**

There are no known historic properties within the APE at Wallops Island. In the unlikely event of an inadvertent discovery of previously unrecorded or unevaluated cultural resources during ground-disturbing construction, the work would immediately stop, and the Wallops Flight

Facility Cultural Resources Manager would be notified. The Wallops Flight Facility Cultural Resources Manager would follow the appropriate protocol for inadvertent discoveries.

### **Conclusion**

Pursuant to 36 CFR Section 800.4(d)(1), NASA has reached a preliminary determination of no historic properties affected for the proposed undertaking with respect to historic properties in the APE. However, prior to finalizing our effects determination, we would like to solicit input regarding Tribal resources that may be present within the APE.

If you request additional consultation, NASA will work with your office to adopt procedures that will meet your Tribe's needs and requirements for continued consultation.

In order to address your concerns in a timely manner for both the Tribe and the proposed undertaking, please respond to this letter within thirty (30) days of receipt to Irene Romero at irene.j.romero@nasa.gov. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*Irene J. Romero*

Irene Romero  
NASA Goddard Cultural Resources Manager  
8800 Greenbelt Road  
Greenbelt, MD 20771

### Enclosures:

- 1- Map depicting the location of Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia
- 2- Map showing the Area of Potential Effects
- 3- References Cited



*This page intentionally left blank*

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

**NASA Goddard Space Flight Center**  
Greenbelt, MD 20771



January 20, 2026

Chief Gerald Stewart  
Chickahominy Indians, Eastern Division  
2895 Mt Pleasant Road  
Providence Forge, VA 23140

**SUBJECT: National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Consultation for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Shoreline Protection Program at Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility Wallops Island, Virginia**

Dear Chief Stewart,

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) proposes to implement measures to protect the beach along the Wallops Island shoreline at Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia (Enclosure 1). The purpose is to protect the Wallops Island shoreline through beach renourishment, construction of additional breakwaters, and/or repair and extend existing seawall in order to reduce the potential for damage to, or loss of, NASA, United States (U.S.) Navy (Navy), U.S. Air Force (Air Force), and Virginia Spaceport Authority (VSA) Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport (MARS) assets on Wallops Island from effects associated with storm events and sea level rise. The beach berm and dune system that was established to protect NASA's Wallops Island launch range infrastructure in 2012 has been subject to erosion through storm wind and wave damage. The originally designed and constructed beach system served its intended purpose of reducing damage to the range assets; however, a notable portion of sub-aerial (i.e., on land surface) sand is often relocated by storm winds and waves with a majority of this sand volume transported to the north end of Wallops Island. The effects of storms are most apparent within the southern half of the Wallops Island beach, where the majority of the highly critical launch assets are located. Within this area, the seaward half of the beach berm and dune system must be maintained to the level of functionality it was originally intended through periodic beach renourishment and shoreline protection.

NASA has determined that the proposed project is an undertaking as defined in 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 800.16(y) and it is a type of activity that has the potential to cause effects on historic properties. NASA has prepared an Environmental Assessment to evaluate the potential environmental effects of both enhancing and protecting the shoreline on Wallops Island with the proposed Federal action alternatives. The Shoreline Protection Program (SPP) Tiered EA has been prepared by NASA in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 United States [U.S.] Code

[U.S.C.] 4321-4347); NASA procedures for implementing NEPA (14 CFR 1216.3); and NASA Procedural Requirement (NPR) *Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act and Executive Order 12114* (NPR 8580.1). The U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Norfolk District are Cooperating Agencies with NASA serving as the lead agency.

The purpose of this letter is to initiate consultation pursuant to the terms of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, and its implementing regulations found at 36 CFR § 800. This letter serves to define the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the undertaking and gauge project effects located within the bounds of the proposed undertaking.

### **Description of Undertaking**

Consistent with the Action Alternatives described in detail in the 2010 Final SRIPP PEIS (NASA 2010), reexamined in the 2013 Final Post-Hurricane Sandy EA (NASA 2013), and implemented following completion of the 2019 Final Shoreline Enhancement and Restoration Project EA (NASA 2019), NASA's proposed undertaking would implement measures to protect the beach along the Wallops Island shoreline infrastructure protection area. The undertaking could involve a combination of sand renourishment within an approximate 15,000-foot section of shoreline from the south property line on Wallops Island north to the location of the fire station; breakwater construction nearshore between existing sets of breakwaters; as well as repairs and extension of the existing seawall. Shoreline stabilization activities could occur in phases depending on a number of factors including: infrastructure prioritized for protection, the pace and location of erosion, and the availability of funding. For example, a section of beach that experiences rapid erosion in a storm event could be renourished followed by construction of breakwaters in one year, and in another year additional renourishment, breakwaters construction or both could occur in another area. Renourishment processes (i.e., beach fill mobilization, dredging and sand placement, and pre- and post- dredging surveys) under the proposed undertaking would be consistent with those described in detail in previous NEPA (NASA 2010; NASA 2013; NASA 2019). For this proposed undertaking, sand material for beach renourishment would come from Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Unnamed Shoal A. All dredging and equipment placement would take place in areas previously surveyed (NASA 2010, 2013, 2019).

### **No Action Alternative**

Under the No Action Alternative, NASA would not renourish the Wallops Island shoreline infrastructure protection area beach and dune system; provide additional breakwaters to reduce the potential for damage to, or loss of, NASA, Navy, Air Force, and VSA MARS assets on Wallops Island from storm events and sea level rise; or repair or extend the existing seawall.

### **Area of Potential Effects (36 CFR § 800.4(a)(1))**

An APE is defined in 36 CFR § 800.16(d) as “the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist.” The APE is influenced by the scale and nature of the undertaking and may be different for various kinds of effects caused by the undertaking. The APE is influenced by the scale and nature of the undertaking and may be different for various kinds of effects caused by the undertaking. For this undertaking, NASA determined that the APE

includes the sand dredging from Unnamed Shoal A, pumpout buoy area, beach renourishment area, and construction of offshore breakwaters (Enclosure 2).

### **Identification of Historic Properties (36 CFR § 800.4(b))**

Pursuant to the NHPA, Section 106 Implementing Regulations at 36 CFR § 800.4(b), qualified preservation professionals have carried out the identification of historic properties within this project's APE in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Identification.

Two archaeological surveys were completed to investigate the APE for the *2010 Final SRIPP PEIS*. In 2009, an investigation of the proposed groin, breakwater, and shoreline that would be impacted by the SRIPP project was completed. This investigation included pedestrian survey of the Wallops Island shoreline, archaeological monitoring of the installation of geotextile tubes along the shoreline, a diving survey of the proposed groin location, and a remote sensing survey of the proposed breakwater area. The investigation did not identify any archaeological resources in the areas and no additional work was recommended (Randolph *et al.* 2009). The second investigation for the *2010 Final SRIPP PEIS* was conducted in 2010. This survey investigated the proposed offshore sand borrow areas using underwater remote sensing. No underwater archaeological resources were identified during the survey and no additional work was recommended for the borrow area (Randolph *et al.* 2010).

No previously identified archaeological sites are located in the APE for the project. Three previously identified archaeological sites are located on Wallops Island in the vicinity of the APE. The Military Earthworks site (44AC0089) is a Revolutionary War gun emplacement located at the northern end of Wallops Island. The site was subjected to additional investigations and recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP. Site 44AC0159 is an unnamed site located at the southern end of Wallops Island. The site is described as a shell pile or shell midden and has been determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP. Site 44AC0459 is a trash scatter associated with the Coast Guard Life Saving Station and Observation Tower. This site was also determined not eligible for the NRHP (NASA 2022a).

In accordance with Executive Order (EO) 13175, *Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments*; EO 12372, *Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs*; and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementation regulations found at 36 CFR § 800.2, § 800.3, and § 800.4, NASA respectfully requests your assistance in identifying the following:

- traditional resources or sacred sites that may be located within the current APE;
- historic properties in the APE of which we may not be aware; and/or
- your Tribe's interest in participating in additional consultation.

### **Results of Identification and Evaluation (36 CFR § 800.4(d))**

There are no known historic properties within the APE at Wallops Island. In the unlikely event of an inadvertent discovery of previously unrecorded or unevaluated cultural resources during ground-disturbing construction, the work would immediately stop, and the Wallops Flight Facility Cultural Resources Manager would be notified. The Wallops Flight Facility Cultural Resources Manager would follow the appropriate protocol for inadvertent discoveries.

## Conclusion

Pursuant to 36 CFR Section 800.4(d)(1), NASA has reached a preliminary determination of no historic properties affected for the proposed undertaking with respect to historic properties in the APE. However, prior to finalizing our effects determination, we would like to solicit input regarding Tribal resources that may be present within the APE.

If you request additional consultation, NASA will work with your office to adopt procedures that will meet your Tribe's needs and requirements for continued consultation.

In order to address your concerns in a timely manner for both the Tribe and the proposed undertaking, please respond to this letter within thirty (30) days of receipt to Irene Romero at [irene.j.romero@nasa.gov](mailto:irene.j.romero@nasa.gov). Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*Irene J. Romero*

Irene Romero  
NASA Goddard Cultural Resources Manager  
8800 Greenbelt Road  
Greenbelt, MD 20771

### Enclosures:

- 1- Map depicting the location of Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia
- 2- Map showing the Area of Potential Effects
- 3- References Cited

*This page intentionally left blank*

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

**NASA Goddard Space Flight Center**  
Greenbelt, MD 20771



January 20, 2026

Tribal Chief Lee Lockamy  
Nansemond Indian Tribe  
1001 Pembroke Lane  
Suffolk, VA 23434

**SUBJECT: National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Consultation for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Shoreline Protection Program at Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility Wallops Island, Virginia**

Dear Chief Lockamy,

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) proposes to implement measures to protect the beach along the Wallops Island shoreline at Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia (Enclosure 1). The purpose is to protect the Wallops Island shoreline through beach renourishment, construction of additional breakwaters, and/or repair and extend existing seawall in order to reduce the potential for damage to, or loss of, NASA, United States (U.S.) Navy (Navy), U.S. Air Force (Air Force), and Virginia Spaceport Authority (VSA) Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport (MARS) assets on Wallops Island from effects associated with storm events and sea level rise. The beach berm and dune system that was established to protect NASA's Wallops Island launch range infrastructure in 2012 has been subject to erosion through storm wind and wave damage. The originally designed and constructed beach system served its intended purpose of reducing damage to the range assets; however, a notable portion of sub-aerial (i.e., on land surface) sand is often relocated by storm winds and waves with a majority of this sand volume transported to the north end of Wallops Island. The effects of storms are most apparent within the southern half of the Wallops Island beach, where the majority of the highly critical launch assets are located. Within this area, the seaward half of the beach berm and dune system must be maintained to the level of functionality it was originally intended through periodic beach renourishment and shoreline protection.

NASA has determined that the proposed project is an undertaking as defined in 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 800.16(y) and it is a type of activity that has the potential to cause effects on historic properties. NASA has prepared an Environmental Assessment to evaluate the potential environmental effects of both enhancing and protecting the shoreline on Wallops Island with the proposed Federal action alternatives. The Shoreline Protection Program (SPP) Tiered EA has been prepared by NASA in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 United States [U.S.] Code

[U.S.C.] 4321-4347); NASA procedures for implementing NEPA (14 CFR 1216.3); and NASA Procedural Requirement (NPR) *Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act and Executive Order 12114* (NPR 8580.1). The U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Norfolk District are Cooperating Agencies with NASA serving as the lead agency.

The purpose of this letter is to initiate consultation pursuant to the terms of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, and its implementing regulations found at 36 CFR § 800. This letter serves to define the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the undertaking and gauge project effects located within the bounds of the proposed undertaking.

### **Description of Undertaking**

Consistent with the Action Alternatives described in detail in the 2010 Final SRIPP PEIS (NASA 2010), reexamined in the 2013 Final Post-Hurricane Sandy EA (NASA 2013), and implemented following completion of the 2019 Final Shoreline Enhancement and Restoration Project EA (NASA 2019), NASA's proposed undertaking would implement measures to protect the beach along the Wallops Island shoreline infrastructure protection area. The undertaking could involve a combination of sand renourishment within an approximate 15,000-foot section of shoreline from the south property line on Wallops Island north to the location of the fire station; breakwater construction nearshore between existing sets of breakwaters; as well as repairs and extension of the existing seawall. Shoreline stabilization activities could occur in phases depending on a number of factors including: infrastructure prioritized for protection, the pace and location of erosion, and the availability of funding. For example, a section of beach that experiences rapid erosion in a storm event could be renourished followed by construction of breakwaters in one year, and in another year additional renourishment, breakwaters construction or both could occur in another area. Renourishment processes (i.e., beach fill mobilization, dredging and sand placement, and pre- and post- dredging surveys) under the proposed undertaking would be consistent with those described in detail in previous NEPA (NASA 2010; NASA 2013; NASA 2019). For this proposed undertaking, sand material for beach renourishment would come from Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Unnamed Shoal A. All dredging and equipment placement would take place in areas previously surveyed (NASA 2010, 2013, 2019).

### **No Action Alternative**

Under the No Action Alternative, NASA would not renourish the Wallops Island shoreline infrastructure protection area beach and dune system; provide additional breakwaters to reduce the potential for damage to, or loss of, NASA, Navy, Air Force, and VSA MARS assets on Wallops Island from storm events and sea level rise; or repair or extend the existing seawall.

### **Area of Potential Effects (36 CFR § 800.4(a)(1))**

An APE is defined in 36 CFR § 800.16(d) as “the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist.” The APE is influenced by the scale and nature of the undertaking and may be different for various kinds of effects caused by the undertaking. The APE is influenced by the scale and nature of the undertaking and may be different for various kinds of effects caused by the undertaking. For this undertaking, NASA determined that the APE



includes the sand dredging from Unnamed Shoal A, pumpout buoy area, beach renourishment area, and construction of offshore breakwaters (Enclosure 2).

### **Identification of Historic Properties (36 CFR § 800.4(b))**

Pursuant to the NHPA, Section 106 Implementing Regulations at 36 CFR § 800.4(b), qualified preservation professionals have carried out the identification of historic properties within this project's APE in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Identification.

Two archaeological surveys were completed to investigate the APE for the *2010 Final SRIPP PEIS*. In 2009, an investigation of the proposed groin, breakwater, and shoreline that would be impacted by the SRIPP project was completed. This investigation included pedestrian survey of the Wallops Island shoreline, archaeological monitoring of the installation of geotextile tubes along the shoreline, a diving survey of the proposed groin location, and a remote sensing survey of the proposed breakwater area. The investigation did not identify any archaeological resources in the areas and no additional work was recommended (Randolph *et al.* 2009). The second investigation for the *2010 Final SRIPP PEIS* was conducted in 2010. This survey investigated the proposed offshore sand borrow areas using underwater remote sensing. No underwater archaeological resources were identified during the survey and no additional work was recommended for the borrow area (Randolph *et al.* 2010).

No previously identified archaeological sites are located in the APE for the project. Three previously identified archaeological sites are located on Wallops Island in the vicinity of the APE. The Military Earthworks site (44AC0089) is a Revolutionary War gun emplacement located at the northern end of Wallops Island. The site was subjected to additional investigations and recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP. Site 44AC0159 is an unnamed site located at the southern end of Wallops Island. The site is described as a shell pile or shell midden and has been determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP. Site 44AC0459 is a trash scatter associated with the Coast Guard Life Saving Station and Observation Tower. This site was also determined not eligible for the NRHP (NASA 2022a).

In accordance with Executive Order (EO) 13175, *Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments*; EO 12372, *Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs*; and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementation regulations found at 36 CFR § 800.2, § 800.3, and § 800.4, NASA respectfully requests your assistance in identifying the following:

- traditional resources or sacred sites that may be located within the current APE;
- historic properties in the APE of which we may not be aware; and/or
- your Tribe's interest in participating in additional consultation.

### **Results of Identification and Evaluation (36 CFR § 800.4(d))**

There are no known historic properties within the APE at Wallops Island. In the unlikely event of an inadvertent discovery of previously unrecorded or unevaluated cultural resources during ground-disturbing construction, the work would immediately stop, and the Wallops Flight Facility Cultural Resources Manager would be notified. The Wallops Flight Facility Cultural Resources Manager would follow the appropriate protocol for inadvertent discoveries.

## Conclusion

Pursuant to 36 CFR Section 800.4(d)(1), NASA has reached a preliminary determination of no historic properties affected for the proposed undertaking with respect to historic properties in the APE. However, prior to finalizing our effects determination, we would like to solicit input regarding Tribal resources that may be present within the APE.

If you request additional consultation, NASA will work with your office to adopt procedures that will meet your Tribe's needs and requirements for continued consultation.

In order to address your concerns in a timely manner for both the Tribe and the proposed undertaking, please respond to this letter within thirty (30) days of receipt to Irene Romero at [irene.j.romero@nasa.gov](mailto:irene.j.romero@nasa.gov). Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*Irene J. Romero*

Irene Romero  
NASA Goddard Cultural Resources Manager  
8800 Greenbelt Road  
Greenbelt, MD 20771

### Enclosures:

- 1- Map depicting the location of Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia
- 2- Map showing the Area of Potential Effects
- 3- References Cited

*This page intentionally left blank*

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

**NASA Goddard Space Flight Center**  
Greenbelt, MD 20771



January 20, 2026

Chief Robert Gray  
Pamunkey Indian Nation  
1054 Pocahontas Trail  
King William, VA 23086

**SUBJECT: National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Consultation for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Shoreline Protection Program at Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility Wallops Island, Virginia**

Dear Chief Gray,

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) proposes to implement measures to protect the beach along the Wallops Island shoreline at Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia (Enclosure 1). The purpose is to protect the Wallops Island shoreline through beach renourishment, construction of additional breakwaters, and/or repair and extend existing seawall in order to reduce the potential for damage to, or loss of, NASA, United States (U.S.) Navy (Navy), U.S. Air Force (Air Force), and Virginia Spaceport Authority (VSA) Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport (MARS) assets on Wallops Island from effects associated with storm events and sea level rise. The beach berm and dune system that was established to protect NASA's Wallops Island launch range infrastructure in 2012 has been subject to erosion through storm wind and wave damage. The originally designed and constructed beach system served its intended purpose of reducing damage to the range assets; however, a notable portion of sub-aerial (i.e., on land surface) sand is often relocated by storm winds and waves with a majority of this sand volume transported to the north end of Wallops Island. The effects of storms are most apparent within the southern half of the Wallops Island beach, where the majority of the highly critical launch assets are located. Within this area, the seaward half of the beach berm and dune system must be maintained to the level of functionality it was originally intended through periodic beach renourishment and shoreline protection.

NASA has determined that the proposed project is an undertaking as defined in 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 800.16(y) and it is a type of activity that has the potential to cause effects on historic properties. NASA has prepared an Environmental Assessment to evaluate the potential environmental effects of both enhancing and protecting the shoreline on Wallops Island with the proposed Federal action alternatives. The Shoreline Protection Program (SPP) Tiered EA has been prepared by NASA in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 United States [U.S.] Code

[U.S.C.] 4321-4347); NASA procedures for implementing NEPA (14 CFR 1216.3); and NASA Procedural Requirement (NPR) *Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act and Executive Order 12114* (NPR 8580.1). The U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Norfolk District are Cooperating Agencies with NASA serving as the lead agency.

The purpose of this letter is to initiate consultation pursuant to the terms of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, and its implementing regulations found at 36 CFR § 800. This letter serves to define the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the undertaking and gauge project effects located within the bounds of the proposed undertaking.

### **Description of Undertaking**

Consistent with the Action Alternatives described in detail in the 2010 Final SRIPP PEIS (NASA 2010), reexamined in the 2013 Final Post-Hurricane Sandy EA (NASA 2013), and implemented following completion of the 2019 Final Shoreline Enhancement and Restoration Project EA (NASA 2019), NASA's proposed undertaking would implement measures to protect the beach along the Wallops Island shoreline infrastructure protection area. The undertaking could involve a combination of sand renourishment within an approximate 15,000-foot section of shoreline from the south property line on Wallops Island north to the location of the fire station; breakwater construction nearshore between existing sets of breakwaters; as well as repairs and extension of the existing seawall. Shoreline stabilization activities could occur in phases depending on a number of factors including: infrastructure prioritized for protection, the pace and location of erosion, and the availability of funding. For example, a section of beach that experiences rapid erosion in a storm event could be renourished followed by construction of breakwaters in one year, and in another year additional renourishment, breakwaters construction or both could occur in another area. Renourishment processes (i.e., beach fill mobilization, dredging and sand placement, and pre- and post- dredging surveys) under the proposed undertaking would be consistent with those described in detail in previous NEPA (NASA 2010; NASA 2013; NASA 2019). For this proposed undertaking, sand material for beach renourishment would come from Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Unnamed Shoal A. All dredging and equipment placement would take place in areas previously surveyed (NASA 2010, 2013, 2019).

### **No Action Alternative**

Under the No Action Alternative, NASA would not renourish the Wallops Island shoreline infrastructure protection area beach and dune system; provide additional breakwaters to reduce the potential for damage to, or loss of, NASA, Navy, Air Force, and VSA MARS assets on Wallops Island from storm events and sea level rise; or repair or extend the existing seawall.

### **Area of Potential Effects (36 CFR § 800.4(a)(1))**

An APE is defined in 36 CFR § 800.16(d) as “the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist.” The APE is influenced by the scale and nature of the undertaking and may be different for various kinds of effects caused by the undertaking. The APE is influenced by the scale and nature of the undertaking and may be different for various kinds of effects caused by the undertaking. For this undertaking, NASA determined that the APE

includes the sand dredging from Unnamed Shoal A, pumpout buoy area, beach renourishment area, and construction of offshore breakwaters (Enclosure 2).

### **Identification of Historic Properties (36 CFR § 800.4(b))**

Pursuant to the NHPA, Section 106 Implementing Regulations at 36 CFR § 800.4(b), qualified preservation professionals have carried out the identification of historic properties within this project's APE in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Identification.

Two archaeological surveys were completed to investigate the APE for the *2010 Final SRIPP PEIS*. In 2009, an investigation of the proposed groin, breakwater, and shoreline that would be impacted by the SRIPP project was completed. This investigation included pedestrian survey of the Wallops Island shoreline, archaeological monitoring of the installation of geotextile tubes along the shoreline, a diving survey of the proposed groin location, and a remote sensing survey of the proposed breakwater area. The investigation did not identify any archaeological resources in the areas and no additional work was recommended (Randolph *et al.* 2009). The second investigation for the *2010 Final SRIPP PEIS* was conducted in 2010. This survey investigated the proposed offshore sand borrow areas using underwater remote sensing. No underwater archaeological resources were identified during the survey and no additional work was recommended for the borrow area (Randolph *et al.* 2010).

No previously identified archaeological sites are located in the APE for the project. Three previously identified archaeological sites are located on Wallops Island in the vicinity of the APE. The Military Earthworks site (44AC0089) is a Revolutionary War gun emplacement located at the northern end of Wallops Island. The site was subjected to additional investigations and recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP. Site 44AC0159 is an unnamed site located at the southern end of Wallops Island. The site is described as a shell pile or shell midden and has been determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP. Site 44AC0459 is a trash scatter associated with the Coast Guard Life Saving Station and Observation Tower. This site was also determined not eligible for the NRHP (NASA 2022a).

In accordance with Executive Order (EO) 13175, *Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments*; EO 12372, *Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs*; and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementation regulations found at 36 CFR § 800.2, § 800.3, and § 800.4, NASA respectfully requests your assistance in identifying the following:

- traditional resources or sacred sites that may be located within the current APE;
- historic properties in the APE of which we may not be aware; and/or
- your Tribe's interest in participating in additional consultation.

### **Results of Identification and Evaluation (36 CFR § 800.4(d))**

There are no known historic properties within the APE at Wallops Island. In the unlikely event of an inadvertent discovery of previously unrecorded or unevaluated cultural resources during ground-disturbing construction, the work would immediately stop, and the Wallops Flight Facility Cultural Resources Manager would be notified. The Wallops Flight Facility Cultural Resources Manager would follow the appropriate protocol for inadvertent discoveries.

## Conclusion

Pursuant to 36 CFR Section 800.4(d)(1), NASA has reached a preliminary determination of no historic properties affected for the proposed undertaking with respect to historic properties in the APE. However, prior to finalizing our effects determination, we would like to solicit input regarding Tribal resources that may be present within the APE.

If you request additional consultation, NASA will work with your office to adopt procedures that will meet your Tribe's needs and requirements for continued consultation.

In order to address your concerns in a timely manner for both the Tribe and the proposed undertaking, please respond to this letter within thirty (30) days of receipt to Irene Romero at [irene.j.romero@nasa.gov](mailto:irene.j.romero@nasa.gov). Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*Irene J. Romero*

Irene Romero  
NASA Goddard Cultural Resources Manager  
8800 Greenbelt Road  
Greenbelt, MD 20771

### Enclosures:

- 1- Map depicting the location of Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia
- 2- Map showing the Area of Potential Effects
- 3- References Cited

*This page intentionally left blank*



National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

**NASA Goddard Space Flight Center**  
Greenbelt, MD 20771



January 20, 2026

Paramount Chief Norris Howard, Sr.  
Pocomoke Indian Nation  
3355 Allen Road  
Eden, MD 21822

**SUBJECT: National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Consultation for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Shoreline Protection Program at Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility Wallops Island, Virginia**

Dear Paramount Chief Howard,

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) proposes to implement measures to protect the beach along the Wallops Island shoreline at Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia (Enclosure 1). The purpose is to protect the Wallops Island shoreline through beach renourishment, construction of additional breakwaters, and/or repair and extend existing seawall in order to reduce the potential for damage to, or loss of, NASA, United States (U.S.) Navy (Navy), U.S. Air Force (Air Force), and Virginia Spaceport Authority (VSA) Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport (MARS) assets on Wallops Island from effects associated with storm events and sea level rise. The beach berm and dune system that was established to protect NASA's Wallops Island launch range infrastructure in 2012 has been subject to erosion through storm wind and wave damage. The originally designed and constructed beach system served its intended purpose of reducing damage to the range assets; however, a notable portion of sub-aerial (i.e., on land surface) sand is often relocated by storm winds and waves with a majority of this sand volume transported to the north end of Wallops Island. The effects of storms are most apparent within the southern half of the Wallops Island beach, where the majority of the highly critical launch assets are located. Within this area, the seaward half of the beach berm and dune system must be maintained to the level of functionality it was originally intended through periodic beach renourishment and shoreline protection.

NASA has determined that the proposed project is an undertaking as defined in 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 800.16(y) and it is a type of activity that has the potential to cause effects on historic properties. NASA has prepared an Environmental Assessment to evaluate the potential environmental effects of both enhancing and protecting the shoreline on Wallops Island with the proposed Federal action alternatives. The Shoreline Protection Program (SPP) Tiered EA has been prepared by NASA in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 United States [U.S.] Code

[U.S.C.] 4321-4347); NASA procedures for implementing NEPA (14 CFR 1216.3); and NASA Procedural Requirement (NPR) *Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act and Executive Order 12114* (NPR 8580.1). The U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Norfolk District are Cooperating Agencies with NASA serving as the lead agency.

The purpose of this letter is to initiate consultation pursuant to the terms of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, and its implementing regulations found at 36 CFR § 800. This letter serves to define the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the undertaking and gauge project effects located within the bounds of the proposed undertaking.

### **Description of Undertaking**

Consistent with the Action Alternatives described in detail in the 2010 Final SRIPP PEIS (NASA 2010), reexamined in the 2013 Final Post-Hurricane Sandy EA (NASA 2013), and implemented following completion of the 2019 Final Shoreline Enhancement and Restoration Project EA (NASA 2019), NASA's proposed undertaking would implement measures to protect the beach along the Wallops Island shoreline infrastructure protection area. The undertaking could involve a combination of sand renourishment within an approximate 15,000-foot section of shoreline from the south property line on Wallops Island north to the location of the fire station; breakwater construction nearshore between existing sets of breakwaters; as well as repairs and extension of the existing seawall. Shoreline stabilization activities could occur in phases depending on a number of factors including: infrastructure prioritized for protection, the pace and location of erosion, and the availability of funding. For example, a section of beach that experiences rapid erosion in a storm event could be renourished followed by construction of breakwaters in one year, and in another year additional renourishment, breakwaters construction or both could occur in another area. Renourishment processes (i.e., beach fill mobilization, dredging and sand placement, and pre- and post- dredging surveys) under the proposed undertaking would be consistent with those described in detail in previous NEPA (NASA 2010; NASA 2013; NASA 2019). For this proposed undertaking, sand material for beach renourishment would come from Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Unnamed Shoal A. All dredging and equipment placement would take place in areas previously surveyed (NASA 2010, 2013, 2019).

### **No Action Alternative**

Under the No Action Alternative, NASA would not renourish the Wallops Island shoreline infrastructure protection area beach and dune system; provide additional breakwaters to reduce the potential for damage to, or loss of, NASA, Navy, Air Force, and VSA MARS assets on Wallops Island from storm events and sea level rise; or repair or extend the existing seawall.

### **Area of Potential Effects (36 CFR § 800.4(a)(1))**

An APE is defined in 36 CFR § 800.16(d) as “the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist.” The APE is influenced by the scale and nature of the undertaking and may be different for various kinds of effects caused by the undertaking. The APE is influenced by the scale and nature of the undertaking and may be different for various kinds of effects caused by the undertaking. For this undertaking, NASA determined that the APE

includes the sand dredging from Unnamed Shoal A, pumpout buoy area, beach renourishment area, and construction of offshore breakwaters (Enclosure 2).

### **Identification of Historic Properties (36 CFR § 800.4(b))**

Pursuant to the NHPA, Section 106 Implementing Regulations at 36 CFR § 800.4(b), qualified preservation professionals have carried out the identification of historic properties within this project's APE in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Identification.

Two archaeological surveys were completed to investigate the APE for the *2010 Final SRIPP PEIS*. In 2009, an investigation of the proposed groin, breakwater, and shoreline that would be impacted by the SRIPP project was completed. This investigation included pedestrian survey of the Wallops Island shoreline, archaeological monitoring of the installation of geotextile tubes along the shoreline, a diving survey of the proposed groin location, and a remote sensing survey of the proposed breakwater area. The investigation did not identify any archaeological resources in the areas and no additional work was recommended (Randolph *et al.* 2009). The second investigation for the *2010 Final SRIPP PEIS* was conducted in 2010. This survey investigated the proposed offshore sand borrow areas using underwater remote sensing. No underwater archaeological resources were identified during the survey and no additional work was recommended for the borrow area (Randolph *et al.* 2010).

No previously identified archaeological sites are located in the APE for the project. Three previously identified archaeological sites are located on Wallops Island in the vicinity of the APE. The Military Earthworks site (44AC0089) is a Revolutionary War gun emplacement located at the northern end of Wallops Island. The site was subjected to additional investigations and recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP. Site 44AC0159 is an unnamed site located at the southern end of Wallops Island. The site is described as a shell pile or shell midden and has been determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP. Site 44AC0459 is a trash scatter associated with the Coast Guard Life Saving Station and Observation Tower. This site was also determined not eligible for the NRHP (NASA 2022a).

In accordance with Executive Order (EO) 13175, *Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments*; EO 12372, *Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs*; and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementation regulations found at 36 CFR § 800.2, § 800.3, and § 800.4, NASA respectfully requests your assistance in identifying the following:

- traditional resources or sacred sites that may be located within the current APE;
- historic properties in the APE of which we may not be aware; and/or
- your Tribe's interest in participating in additional consultation.

### **Results of Identification and Evaluation (36 CFR § 800.4(d))**

There are no known historic properties within the APE at Wallops Island. In the unlikely event of an inadvertent discovery of previously unrecorded or unevaluated cultural resources during ground-disturbing construction, the work would immediately stop, and the Wallops Flight Facility Cultural Resources Manager would be notified. The Wallops Flight Facility Cultural Resources Manager would follow the appropriate protocol for inadvertent discoveries.

## Conclusion

Pursuant to 36 CFR Section 800.4(d)(1), NASA has reached a preliminary determination of no historic properties affected for the proposed undertaking with respect to historic properties in the APE. However, prior to finalizing our effects determination, we would like to solicit input regarding Tribal resources that may be present within the APE.

If you request additional consultation, NASA will work with your office to adopt procedures that will meet your Tribe's needs and requirements for continued consultation.

In order to address your concerns in a timely manner for both the Tribe and the proposed undertaking, please respond to this letter within thirty (30) days of receipt to Irene Romero at [irene.j.romero@nasa.gov](mailto:irene.j.romero@nasa.gov). Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*Irene J. Romero*

Irene Romero  
NASA Goddard Cultural Resources Manager  
8800 Greenbelt Road  
Greenbelt, MD 20771

### Enclosures:

- 1- Map depicting the location of Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia
- 2- Map showing the Area of Potential Effects
- 3- References Cited

*This page intentionally left blank*

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

**NASA Goddard Space Flight Center**  
Greenbelt, MD 20771



January 20, 2026

Chief Anne Richardson  
Rappahannock Tribe of Virginia  
5036 Indian Neck Road  
Stephens Church, VA 23148

**SUBJECT: National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Consultation for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Shoreline Protection Program at Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility Wallops Island, Virginia**

Dear Chief Richardson,

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) proposes to implement measures to protect the beach along the Wallops Island shoreline at Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia (Enclosure 1). The purpose is to protect the Wallops Island shoreline through beach renourishment, construction of additional breakwaters, and/or repair and extend existing seawall in order to reduce the potential for damage to, or loss of, NASA, United States (U.S.) Navy (Navy), U.S. Air Force (Air Force), and Virginia Spaceport Authority (VSA) Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport (MARS) assets on Wallops Island from effects associated with storm events and sea level rise. The beach berm and dune system that was established to protect NASA's Wallops Island launch range infrastructure in 2012 has been subject to erosion through storm wind and wave damage. The originally designed and constructed beach system served its intended purpose of reducing damage to the range assets; however, a notable portion of sub-aerial (i.e., on land surface) sand is often relocated by storm winds and waves with a majority of this sand volume transported to the north end of Wallops Island. The effects of storms are most apparent within the southern half of the Wallops Island beach, where the majority of the highly critical launch assets are located. Within this area, the seaward half of the beach berm and dune system must be maintained to the level of functionality it was originally intended through periodic beach renourishment and shoreline protection.

NASA has determined that the proposed project is an undertaking as defined in 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 800.16(y) and it is a type of activity that has the potential to cause effects on historic properties. NASA has prepared an Environmental Assessment to evaluate the potential environmental effects of both enhancing and protecting the shoreline on Wallops Island with the proposed Federal action alternatives. The Shoreline Protection Program (SPP) Tiered EA has been prepared by NASA in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 United States [U.S.] Code

[U.S.C.] 4321-4347); NASA procedures for implementing NEPA (14 CFR 1216.3); and NASA Procedural Requirement (NPR) *Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act and Executive Order 12114* (NPR 8580.1). The U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Norfolk District are Cooperating Agencies with NASA serving as the lead agency.

The purpose of this letter is to initiate consultation pursuant to the terms of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended, and its implementing regulations found at 36 CFR § 800. This letter serves to define the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the undertaking and gauge project effects located within the bounds of the proposed undertaking.

### **Description of Undertaking**

Consistent with the Action Alternatives described in detail in the 2010 Final SRIPP PEIS (NASA 2010), reexamined in the 2013 Final Post-Hurricane Sandy EA (NASA 2013), and implemented following completion of the 2019 Final Shoreline Enhancement and Restoration Project EA (NASA 2019), NASA's proposed undertaking would implement measures to protect the beach along the Wallops Island shoreline infrastructure protection area. The undertaking could involve a combination of sand renourishment within an approximate 15,000-foot section of shoreline from the south property line on Wallops Island north to the location of the fire station; breakwater construction nearshore between existing sets of breakwaters; as well as repairs and extension of the existing seawall. Shoreline stabilization activities could occur in phases depending on a number of factors including: infrastructure prioritized for protection, the pace and location of erosion, and the availability of funding. For example, a section of beach that experiences rapid erosion in a storm event could be renourished followed by construction of breakwaters in one year, and in another year additional renourishment, breakwaters construction or both could occur in another area. Renourishment processes (i.e., beach fill mobilization, dredging and sand placement, and pre- and post- dredging surveys) under the proposed undertaking would be consistent with those described in detail in previous NEPA (NASA 2010; NASA 2013; NASA 2019). For this proposed undertaking, sand material for beach renourishment would come from Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Unnamed Shoal A. All dredging and equipment placement would take place in areas previously surveyed (NASA 2010, 2013, 2019).

### **No Action Alternative**

Under the No Action Alternative, NASA would not renourish the Wallops Island shoreline infrastructure protection area beach and dune system; provide additional breakwaters to reduce the potential for damage to, or loss of, NASA, Navy, Air Force, and VSA MARS assets on Wallops Island from storm events and sea level rise; or repair or extend the existing seawall.

### **Area of Potential Effects (36 CFR § 800.4(a)(1))**

An APE is defined in 36 CFR § 800.16(d) as “the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist.” The APE is influenced by the scale and nature of the undertaking and may be different for various kinds of effects caused by the undertaking. The APE is influenced by the scale and nature of the undertaking and may be different for various kinds of effects caused by the undertaking. For this undertaking, NASA determined that the APE

includes the sand dredging from Unnamed Shoal A, pumpout buoy area, beach renourishment area, and construction of offshore breakwaters (Enclosure 2).

### **Identification of Historic Properties (36 CFR § 800.4(b))**

Pursuant to the NHPA, Section 106 Implementing Regulations at 36 CFR § 800.4(b), qualified preservation professionals have carried out the identification of historic properties within this project's APE in accordance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Identification.

Two archaeological surveys were completed to investigate the APE for the *2010 Final SRIPP PEIS*. In 2009, an investigation of the proposed groin, breakwater, and shoreline that would be impacted by the SRIPP project was completed. This investigation included pedestrian survey of the Wallops Island shoreline, archaeological monitoring of the installation of geotextile tubes along the shoreline, a diving survey of the proposed groin location, and a remote sensing survey of the proposed breakwater area. The investigation did not identify any archaeological resources in the areas and no additional work was recommended (Randolph *et al.* 2009). The second investigation for the *2010 Final SRIPP PEIS* was conducted in 2010. This survey investigated the proposed offshore sand borrow areas using underwater remote sensing. No underwater archaeological resources were identified during the survey and no additional work was recommended for the borrow area (Randolph *et al.* 2010).

No previously identified archaeological sites are located in the APE for the project. Three previously identified archaeological sites are located on Wallops Island in the vicinity of the APE. The Military Earthworks site (44AC0089) is a Revolutionary War gun emplacement located at the northern end of Wallops Island. The site was subjected to additional investigations and recommended eligible for listing in the NRHP. Site 44AC0159 is an unnamed site located at the southern end of Wallops Island. The site is described as a shell pile or shell midden and has been determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP. Site 44AC0459 is a trash scatter associated with the Coast Guard Life Saving Station and Observation Tower. This site was also determined not eligible for the NRHP (NASA 2022a).

In accordance with Executive Order (EO) 13175, *Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments*; EO 12372, *Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs*; and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementation regulations found at 36 CFR § 800.2, § 800.3, and § 800.4, NASA respectfully requests your assistance in identifying the following:

- traditional resources or sacred sites that may be located within the current APE;
- historic properties in the APE of which we may not be aware; and/or
- your Tribe's interest in participating in additional consultation.

### **Results of Identification and Evaluation (36 CFR § 800.4(d))**

There are no known historic properties within the APE at Wallops Island. In the unlikely event of an inadvertent discovery of previously unrecorded or unevaluated cultural resources during ground-disturbing construction, the work would immediately stop, and the Wallops Flight Facility Cultural Resources Manager would be notified. The Wallops Flight Facility Cultural Resources Manager would follow the appropriate protocol for inadvertent discoveries.



## Conclusion

Pursuant to 36 CFR Section 800.4(d)(1), NASA has reached a preliminary determination of no historic properties affected for the proposed undertaking with respect to historic properties in the APE. However, prior to finalizing our effects determination, we would like to solicit input regarding Tribal resources that may be present within the APE.

If you request additional consultation, NASA will work with your office to adopt procedures that will meet your Tribe's needs and requirements for continued consultation.

In order to address your concerns in a timely manner for both the Tribe and the proposed undertaking, please respond to this letter within thirty (30) days of receipt to Irene Romero at [irene.j.romero@nasa.gov](mailto:irene.j.romero@nasa.gov). Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

*Irene J. Romero*

Irene Romero  
NASA Goddard Cultural Resources Manager  
8800 Greenbelt Road  
Greenbelt, MD 20771

### Enclosures:

- 1- Map depicting the location of Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia
- 2- Map showing the Area of Potential Effects
- 3- References Cited