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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
READINESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION INTEGRATION PROGRAM

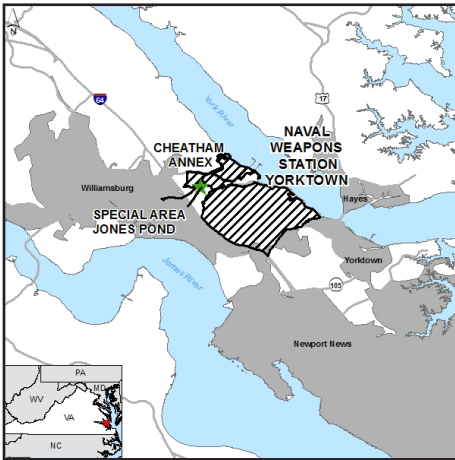
PROJECT PROFILES
U.S. NAVY | VIRGINIA



NAVAL WEAPONS STATION YORKTOWN

Located in the Hampton Roads region of Virginia, Naval Weapons Station (NWS) Yorktown includes the Special Areas at Cheatham Annex (Jones Pond), Camp Peary, and the New Kent County Relocatable Over the Horizon Radar (ROTHR).

The station hosts sensitive training and operations by Naval Special Warfare Command forces that are essential to national security. Jones Pond is pristine with minimal surrounding development, enabling 24-hour training capability and simulation not easily replicated within the Mid-Atlantic region. The location of the ROTHR transmitter site, roughly 30 miles north, is critical to current drug interdiction operations.



However, surrounding land is designated an Economic Opportunity Zone and the possibility of mixed-use development would negatively impact NWS Yorktown's missions. Jones Pond offers a unique environment for Special Forces to conduct specialized training, often at night, which is incompatible with most

land use development. Buffers will help mitigate noise-sensitive activities, preserve Camp Peary's isolation, and protect NWS Yorktown's Explosive Ordnance Disposal Range and ROTHR transmission capabilities.

NWS Yorktown is working with its partners to restore and protect the Penniman Spit from further erosion, which has lost over 86 percent of its area since 1937 by incorporating natural and artificial oyster reefs to protect over 2,000 linear feet of shoreline within nearshore areas critical to the installation's mission. NWS Yorktown is also protecting its training activities by acquiring restrictive easements on properties that have historic ties to the Civil and Revolutionary Wars, lands within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, and areas proximate to existing National Park Service lands. The acquisitions will also maintain green corridors and buffer lands that border the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail, while ensuring the long term sustainability of the Navy's Special Warfare training missions.

BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Preserves working lands and local character
- Protects cultural resources
- Supports a green corridor that allows wildlife to travel between habitats

MILITARY

- Reduces lost training days and the need for workarounds that limit training realism or effectiveness
- Ensures the ability to conduct training or testing activities that generate noise
- Protects the ability to perform sensitive special operations training



The isolated and pristine environments of NWS Yorktown and its associated Special Areas are perfect for Navy Special Forces training (top). Many surrounding lands have historical and cultural importance, similar to the Lee House on NWS Yorktown (bottom).

KEY PARTNERS

- Chesapeake Bay Trust
- Chesapeake Research Consortium
- Civil War Trust
- James City County
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- National Park Service
- Pew Charitable Trust
- The Trust for Public Land
- Virginia Institute of Marine Science, College of William and Mary
- Virginia Western Shore Oyster Restoration Workgroup
- Williamsburg Land Conservancy and Battlefield Trust
- York County

FAST FACTS THROUGH 30 SEP 2022

- ACRES PRESERVED: 654
- TRANSACTIONS CONDUCTED: 2
- TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED: \$12.5 million
- PROJECT STATUS: In Progress

CONTACT

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