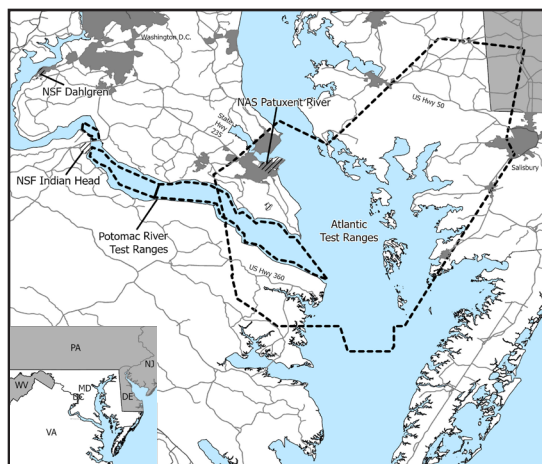




NAVAL SUPPORT FACILITY INDIAN HEAD

Naval Support Facility (NSF) Indian Head supports the research, development, testing, and evaluation (RDT&E) activities of the Naval Surface Warfare Center Indian Head Division.

Its mission is to provide RDT&E of energetics and energetics material for warheads, propulsion systems, and ordnance. NSF Indian Head is located on the Potomac River approximately 20 miles south of Washington, D.C. on the Maryland side of the river,



allowing for outdoor explosives testing over water. Although such testing occurs away from the main D.C. population centers, the sound waves travel up and down the river and impact residents of Maryland and Virginia alike.

To prevent development pressures and protect NSF Indian Head's RDT&E mission, the Navy is working with a number of partners to preserve land on both banks of the Potomac River and up to several miles inland. In some

cases, the partner may acquire the land in fee, but in all cases the Navy will acquire restrictive easements. These easements will remove the development pressures on surrounding agricultural and forested lands.

Much of the land targeted for protection is already adjacent to public lands that cannot be developed. Preventing development on these private lands would help preserve the isolation of NSF Indian Head and its mission activities, reducing the potential for complaints related to noise and shock waves from explosives and demolitions. Additionally, increasing protected lands in this area supports stream protection initiatives and supports goals for preserving habitat and species throughout the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem.

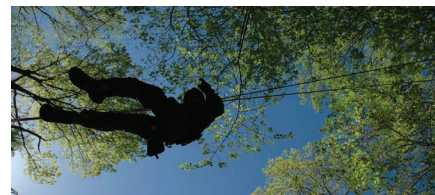
BENEFIT SUMMARY

COMMUNITY

- Protects working farm lands
- Preserves habitat for threatened, endangered, and at-risk species
- Protects water quality and water supply

MILITARY

- Protects live-fire testing that produces significant amounts of noise and vibration
- Prevents workarounds that would reduce testing and training capacity
- Improves operational safety



A technician practices a rope rescue exercise (top). Some research, development, test, and evaluation activities include detonating an improvised explosive device to develop better ways of combating them in the field (bottom).

KEY PARTNERS

- Anne Arundel County
- Charles County
- Conservancy for Charles County
- Eastern Shore Land Conservancy, Inc.
- Green Trust Alliance
- Lower Shore Land Trust
- Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
- Maryland Department of Natural Resources
- Northern Neck Land Conservancy
- Patuxent Tidewater Land Trust, Inc.
- Southern Maryland Resource Conservation and Development
- St. Mary's County
- State of Delaware
- The Conservation Fund
- The Nature Conservancy
- Trust for Public Land
- Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
- Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources
- Virginia Outdoors Foundation

CONTACT

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE:
(540) 653-8153

FAST FACTS FROM FY 2015 THROUGH FY 2024 | Project Status: In Progress

Authority	Transactions	Acres Protected, Managed, or Improved	Total Funds Expended
10 U.S.C. § 2684a	2	294	\$1.1 million

Subtotals may not sum to combined totals due to rounding