



# DEVELOPMENT OF A PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT FOR THE PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS AND AIRFIELD OBSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT PLAN AT NAVAL AUXILIARY LANDING FIELD FENTRESS, VIRGINIA



## What is the Navy proposing?

The Navy intends to develop a Programmatic Agreement (PA) to address effects to historic properties as a result of proposed actions related to security improvements and implementation of the airfield obstruction management plan at Naval Auxiliary Landing Field (NALF) Fentress in Chesapeake, Virginia. NALF Fentress is located within the city of Chesapeake, Virginia, approximately 8.5 miles southwest of Naval Air Station Oceana (see Figure 1).

The Navy plans to support airfield operations with the implementation of improvements and removal of vegetation that exceeds the Federal Aviation Administration and Navy height limits. The improvements will include the construction of a fence and road.

## Why is the Navy preparing a Programmatic Agreement?

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires federal agencies to consider the effects of proposed actions on historic properties. At this early stage in the planning process, the design specifics required to determine effects on historic properties are unknown. The Navy is proposing the execution of a PA to allow for continued consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and other consulting parties on effects to historic properties as project scopes are developed.

The PA will include stipulations related to:

- Identification and evaluation of archaeological sites and historic buildings within the construction footprint and view shed of the proposed actions;
- Best management practices to avoid or minimize effects on historic properties; and
- Process for continued consultation with Virginia Department of Historic Resources (also known as the State Historic Preservation Office) and other consulting parties

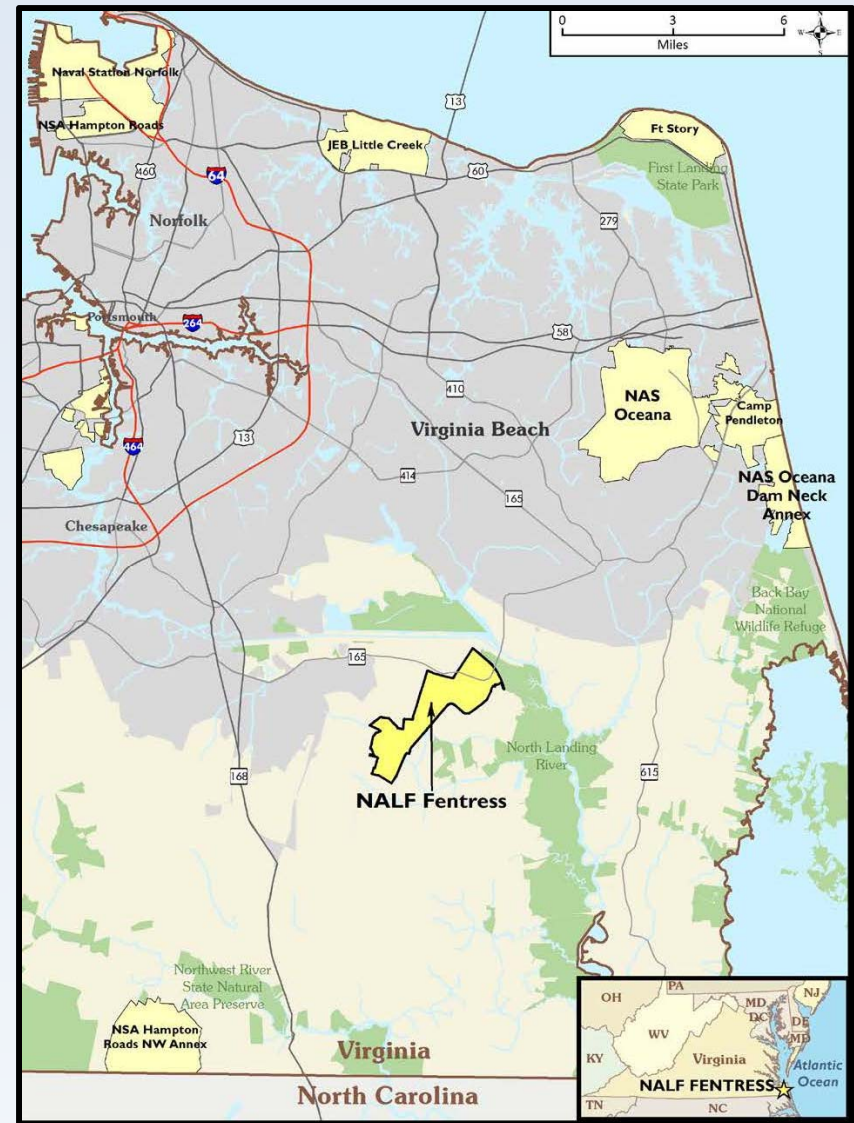


Figure 1 - Location of NALF Fentress



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## What is the Area of Potential Effect?

Based on current information, the Navy has defined the area of potential effect for the PA as the installation boundary of NALF Fentress and the associated view shed for the immediate surrounding areas of the installation.

## Identification of Historic Properties

The Navy has performed Phase 1 archaeological investigations at NALF Fentress over the years. The investigations identified 24 archaeological sites and 23 sites requiring further evaluation to determine if the sites are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

The Navy has performed architectural survey of above-ground resources at NALF Fentress over the years. There are no identified architectural resources at NALF Fentress that are eligible for the NRHP. In order to determine the view shed, the Navy performed a view shed analysis for the proposed security improvements and utilized a 1-mile radius. The view shed was further reduced to 0.25 mile from the installation boundary based on field verification of the computer-generated view shed (see Figure 2). There are thirty (30) properties that are 50 years old or older within the 0.25 mile view shed. Further evaluation of the 30 properties is necessary to determine if the properties are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

The Navy is accepting comments on the Draft PA for 30 days from the date of publication. For more information on the proposed action, or to obtain a copy of the Draft PA, please contact:

**NAS OCEANA COMMENT LINE**  
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## What is a Consulting Party in accordance with Section 106?

Under Section 106, a consulting party is defined as a party that has a consultative role in the process. As such the Navy routinely consults, as appropriate, with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Virginia Department of Historic Resources (Also know as the State Historic Preservation Office), federally-recognized Native American tribes, representatives of local governments, certain individuals and organizations with a demonstrated legal or economic interest in the proposed action or affected property(ies), and the public on proposed actions that may affected historic properties.

As a consulting party, the party may provide comments on the following including but not limited to:

- Identification of historic properties;
- Defining the APE; and
- Minimization and resolution of adverse effects to historic properties.



Figure 2 – Proposed View Shed (orange shaded areas) and identified properties 50 years of age or older