



# Proposed Action

## What?

The Navy proposes to home base and operate a new MQ-25A Stingray Carrier-Based Unmanned Aircraft System squadron at Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia. Proposed Action components include:

- Home base up to 20 Stingray aircraft.
- Renovate existing hangar and support equipment.
- Construct supporting infrastructure.
  - » 43,000 square foot building and
  - » 155-foot-tall air traffic detection radar tower.
- Conduct approximately 960 Stingray and up to 2,880 escort aircraft annual flight operations.
- Perform Stingray maintenance.
- Provide training for Stingray pilots and maintainers.
- Station approximately 600 personnel along with their families.

## Why?

Enhance aircraft carrier capability and flexibility by adding a new unmanned aircraft that provides:

- Aerial refueling.
- Reconnaissance capabilities.



## When?

- **2026 - 2029:** proposed facility construction and renovation.
- **2029-2031:** command transition.
- **2031 - 2035:** phased occupancy of the facilities by aircraft and personnel.

## Where?



### Chambers Field at Naval Station Norfolk, Virginia

Other locations were considered; however, Naval Station Norfolk is the only location that meets all Stingray home basing requirements. These included distance to aircraft carrier operating areas and co-location with supporting Navy commands and maintenance centers.

**We Welcome Your Comments. Your input Matters!**







# Environmental Analysis

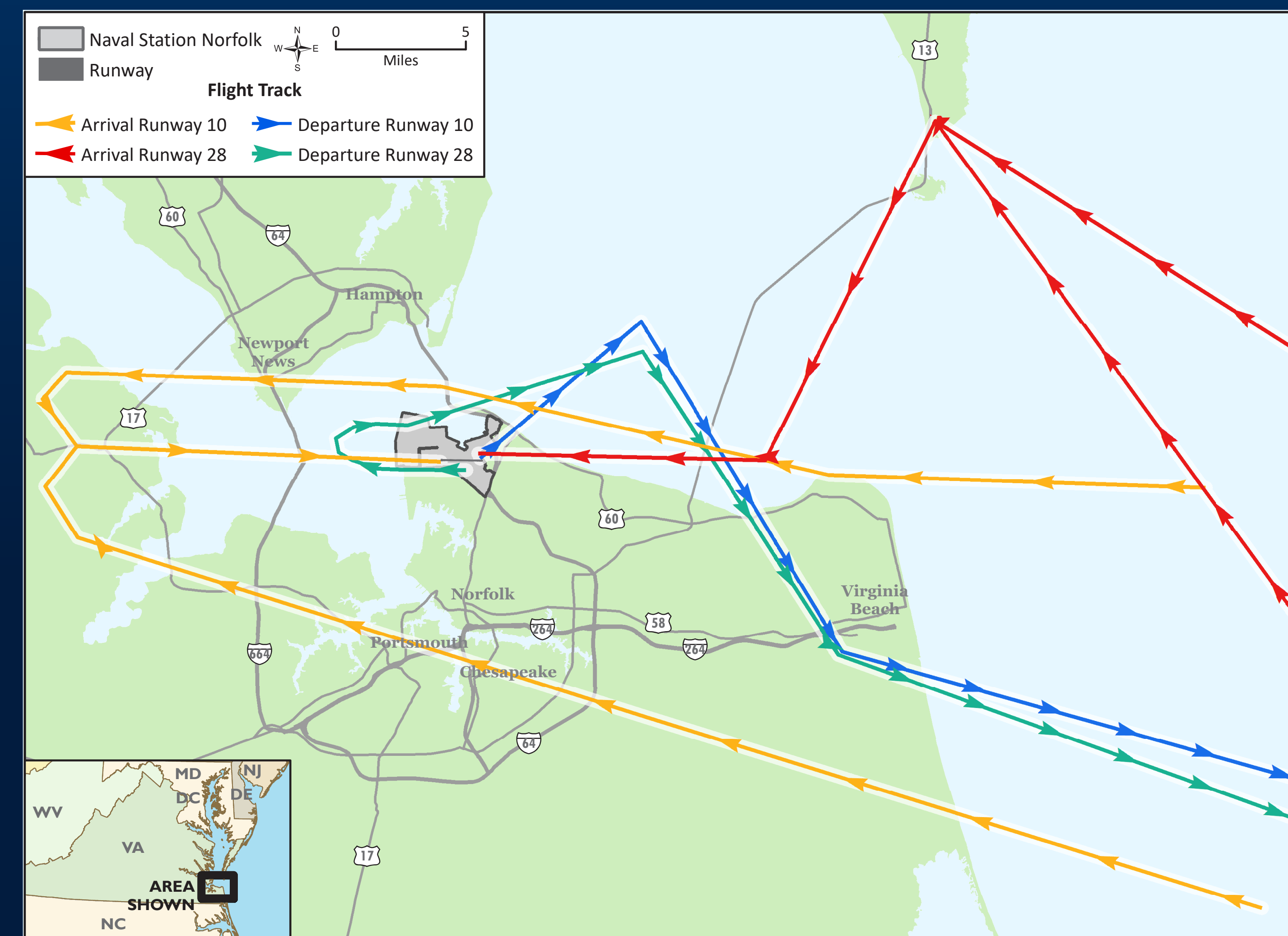


## Airspace & Public Safety

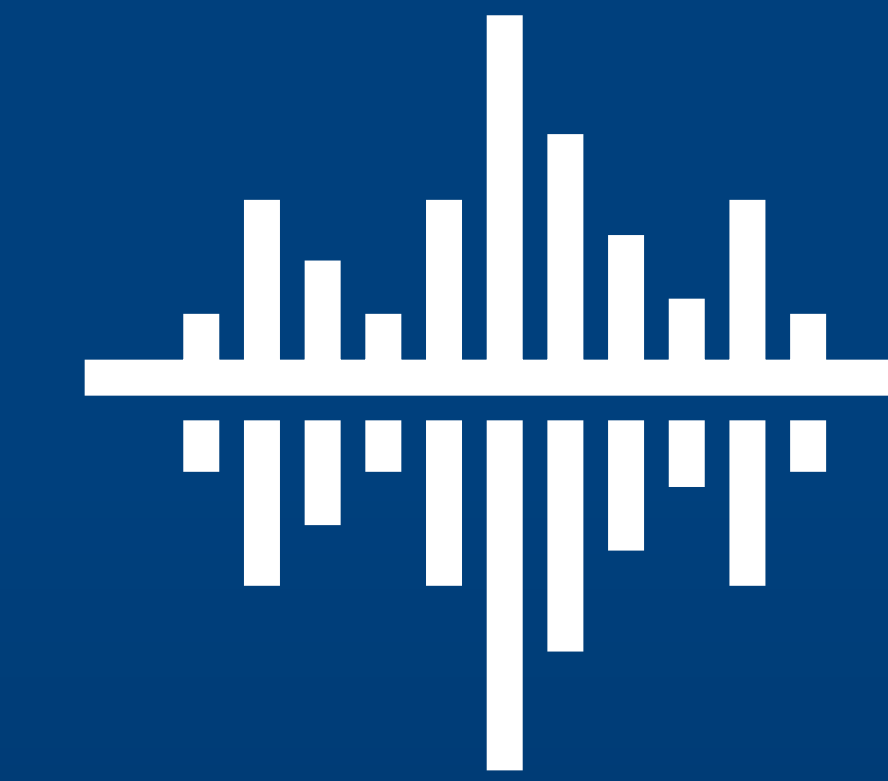
### No Significant Effects



- Stingray is the latest generation of unmanned aircraft systems.
- Stingray pilots would undergo extensive training prior to controlling actual flights.
- Mishap rates for large military unmanned aircraft systems are low and comparable to manned fighter aircraft.
- An air traffic radar system or escort aircraft would provide required "detect and avoid" capability.
- No changes to Clear Zones or Accident Potential Zones.
- Flight paths would be similar to those currently flown.



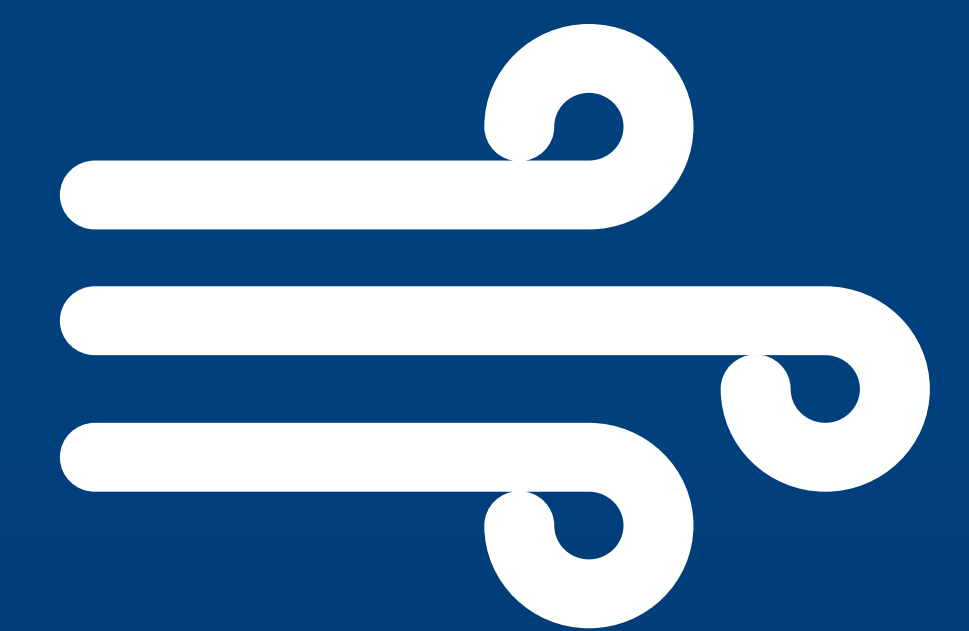
Proposed Stingray Flight Paths



## Noise

### No Significant Effects

- No perceptible change to baseline noise.
- Stingray combined with escort aircraft operations would result in an estimated 0.3 decibel day-night level increase.
- Stingray is quieter than most aircraft at Naval Station Norfolk.



## Air Quality

### No Significant Effects

- Emissions increase would be minimal.
- Emissions would be below applicable regulatory limits.

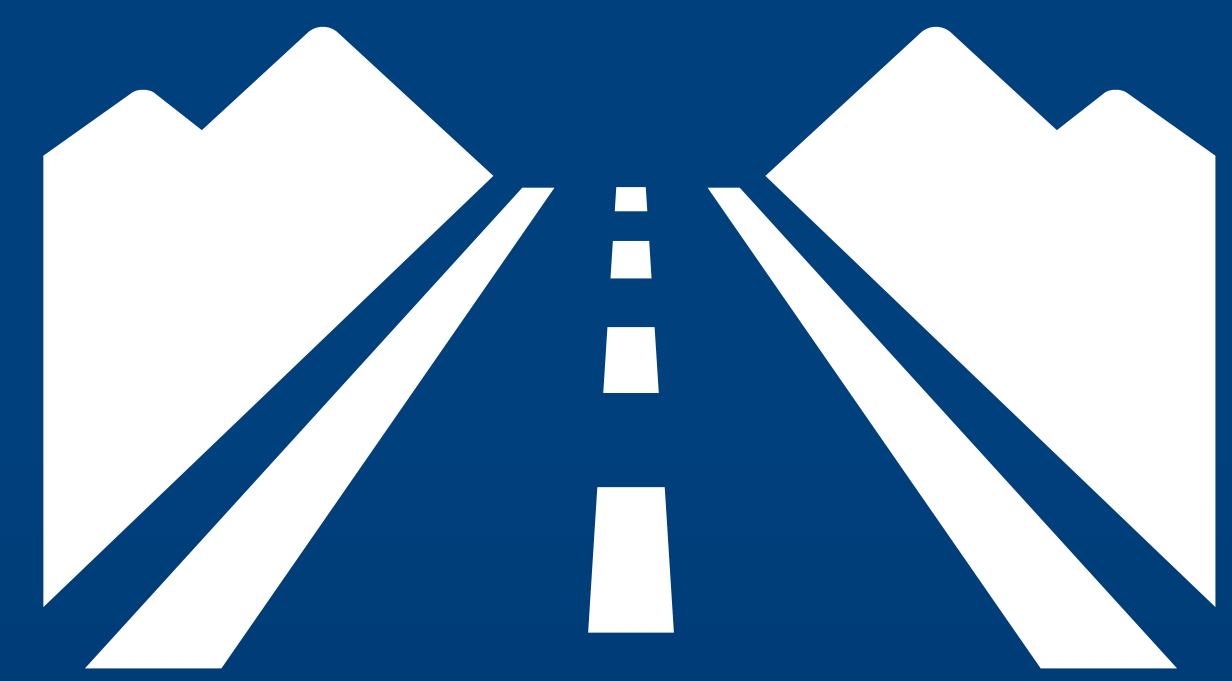
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# Environmental Analysis Continued



## Transportation

### No Significant Effects

- Temporary increase in traffic during construction (2026-2029).
- Minimal increase in commuter traffic on West Bay Avenue (Gate 4) and I-564 (Gate 3A).



## Cultural Resources

### No Significant Effects

- Adverse effects to historic properties are not anticipated.
- Consultation with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources is ongoing.
- Tribal engagement is ongoing.



## Water Resources

### No Significant Effects

- Construction would occur on previously developed/disturbed land.
- Land management practices would be used to control erosion and sedimentation.
- Small area of wetlands and floodplains may be minimally affected during construction.



## Biological Resources

### No Significant Effects

- Negligible effects to habitat and vegetation or the species that depend on them.
- Small increase in bird/wildlife aircraft strike risk.
- Not likely to adversely affect the tricolored bat.
- No effects to other threatened or endangered species.

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# National Environmental Policy Act Process & Public Involvement



## The Navy Wants to Hear from You

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires federal agencies to inform and involve the public in the decision-making process.

NEPA considers the environmental effects of proposed projects through a comprehensive environmental analysis.

## Public Participation Helps the Navy Make Informed Decisions

Public comments allow decision makers to consider your input in the development of the Final Environmental Assessment.

## NEPA Timeline

30-day Public Comment Period Starts  
**May 8, 2025**



Public Information Meeting  
**May 20, 2025**

We  
are here



Public Comment Period Ends  
**June 7, 2025**



Final Environmental Assessment  
**Anticipated Fall 2025**



Navy Decision  
**Anticipated Fall 2025**

## How to Provide Comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment



**Provide your comments TODAY by:**

Filling out a comment form and placing it in the comment box.



**Provide your comments by MAIL, postmarked no later than June 7, 2025 to:**

Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Atlantic  
Attn: MQ-25A Project Manager, Code EV22DS  
6506 Hampton Blvd  
Norfolk, Virginia 23508



**Submit your comments  
ONLINE via the  
project website:**

[www.nepa.navy.mil/MQ25-East](http://www.nepa.navy.mil/MQ25-East)



**Thank you for your participation!**

**We Welcome Your Comments. Your input Matters!**

