



# Assateague Island Formerly Used Defense Site, MD

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
**FACT SHEET as of February 1, 2015**

**BUILDING STRONG®**

**AUTHORIZATION:** Defense Environmental Restoration Program

**TYPE OF PROJECT:** Formerly Used Defense Site (FUDS)

**PROJECT PHASE:** Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP) Site Inspection and Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (future)

**CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST:** Senators **Cardin** and **Mikulski (MD)** and **Kaine** and **Warner (VA)** and Representatives **Harris (MD-01)** and **Rigell (VA-02)**



**BACKGROUND:** Assateague Island is a 37-mile-long barrier island that parallels the Atlantic Coast of Maryland and Virginia. The entire island contains approximately 17,522 acres. The US Navy used two areas on the island as rocket testing and training ranges for land based aircraft from Naval Air Station Chincoteague, VA, and Naval Air Station Manteo, NC, from 1944 until 1947. Explosive Ordnance Demolition teams have previously recovered seven rocket motors, six rockets, and numerous ballistic tips from one of the rocket ranges. Additional subsequent searches for ordnance did not yield additional items.

The site is currently owned by the National Park Service, the State of Maryland, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the State of Virginia, and the U.S. Coast Guard. The island is used primarily as a national seashore, a wildlife refuge and a state park. There are a few residential areas and no industrial presence.

**STATUS:** A Military Munitions Response Program Site Inspection (MMRP SI) was completed in 2007. The SI recommended that a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) be performed in the future. Due to funding limitations and the prioritization of activities on ongoing higher priority sites, the RI/FS effort is scheduled to commence in FY2020.

**For more information** regarding the Assateague Island FUDS project, please contact Ed Hughes, CENAB-EN-H, (410) 962-4937, e-mail [edward.t.hughes@usace.army.mil](mailto:edward.t.hughes@usace.army.mil).

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – BALTIMORE DISTRICT**

P.O. Box 1715, Baltimore, MD 21203

<http://www.nab.usace.army.mil>

Page 1 of 2

