

COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
THE COMMANDING OFFICER, NAS PATUXENT RIVER,  
AND  
THE ST. MARY'S COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR  
ENCROACHMENT MITIGATION AND PREVENTION

WHEREAS, the St. Mary's County Board of County Commissioners (hereinafter referred to as "the County") are a body politic and corporate and a subdivision of the State of Maryland; and

WHEREAS, the Commanding Officer, Naval Air Station Patuxent River (hereinafter referred to as "the Navy") is a Naval Command under the Commandant, Naval District Washington; and,

WHEREAS, the Naval Air Station (NAS) Patuxent River is the Navy's principal site for naval aviation acquisition, research, development, test, and evaluation, accounting for over 19,000 jobs and an overall economic impact of more than \$2 billion in St. Mary's County; and,

WHEREAS, encroachment caused by activities outside of the defense installations can affect operations at the Navy's Patuxent River complex (NAS Patuxent River and Webster Field), potentially limiting the future viability of Navy operations in St. Mary's County; and,

WHEREAS, the Navy and the County recognize that encroachment can encompass a variety of issues, ranging from noise to frequency interference to light pollution, any of which can impede operations at NAS Patuxent River; and,

WHEREAS, the County is strongly committed to local policies and actions that will maintain world-class Department of Defense facilities and airspace free from encroachment at the Navy's Patuxent River complex; and,

WHEREAS, the Navy has completed an Encroachment Action Plan that provides overall guidance, identifies encroachment threats and recommends possible actions to remedy those threats; and,

WHEREAS, both the Navy and the County wish to ensure clear and timely communication that will anticipate and resolve any issues that might create an encroachment threat to operations at the Patuxent River complex.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it agreed by the County and the Navy that the following terms and conditions shall establish their formal cooperative encroachment mitigation and prevention relationship:

1. Representatives of the County and the Navy shall meet at least twice yearly to discuss identified encroachment threats, potential new threats, proposed new development, potential encroachment remedies, progress on identified encroachment remedies and related matters. These discussions shall include a review of existing and proposed development in the AICUZ and nearby areas, adopted and potential changes to the local zoning ordinance, and potential cooperative action to address encroachment.
2. The Navy shall continue to provide a technical advisor to review all development proposals in the vicinity of NAS Patuxent River and Webster Field as part of the County's technical evaluation committee process for proposed development.
3. The County and the Navy shall collaborate on communication efforts to inform St. Mary's County citizens about the nature of encroachment threats and local actions that can reduce or eliminate those threats.
4. The County and the Navy shall collaborate on analyses and data collection that provide clearer quantitative measures of encroachment threats and the progress of mitigation and prevention measures.
5. The County and the Navy shall collaborate to address encroachment threats from beyond St. Mary's County.

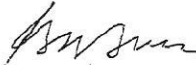
6. The Navy shall work with the County to identify easements or other mechanisms to ensure protection of the Clear Zone at Webster Field and to accomplish the compatible goals of encroachment protection and agricultural land preservation.

ATTEST:

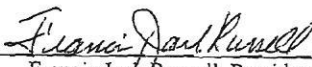
 4/20/07

John Savich  
County Administrator


NAVAL AIR STATION  
PATUXENT RIVER, MARYLAND

By:  4/20/07  
Captain Glen Ives, Commanding Officer

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
ST. MARY'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

By:  4/24/07  
Francis Jack Russell, President

Approved as to Form  
and Legal Sufficiency

  
Christy Holt Chesser  
County Attorney