



# PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Navy, Wallops Flight Facility to Host Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Navy Environmental Stewardship Exhibit

An interactive museum exhibit focusing on Navy environmental stewardship will be officially opened at NASA's Wallops Flight Facility Visitor Center Thursday, March 17. A ribbon cutting ceremony will mark opening of the Navy's United States Fleet Forces Command "Stewards of the Sea: Defending Freedom, Protecting the Environment" display.

Following the ceremony, Mr. Joe Atangan, a physical scientist at U.S. Fleet Forces Command, will provide a lecture on Navy environmental stewardship at the auditorium in the Visitor Center. Both events are open to the public.

The ribbon cutting ceremony will begin at 5:00 p.m., and the environmental stewardship lecture will commence at 5:30. Media are encouraged to cover both events, and Navy leadership and subject matter experts will be available for interviews.

The Stewards of the Sea exhibit will be on display at the Wallops Visitor Center through Labor Day, after which it will be displayed at a variety of museums throughout the country over the next few years. Modeled after the permanent exhibit at the Hampton Roads Naval Museum at Nauticus, the National Maritime Center in downtown Norfolk, it has interactive features and is designed to provide information on Navy environmental stewardship that include plastic processing at sea, Navy marine species research, and mitigation measures the Navy employs to minimize harm to marine environment during at-sea training.

The Wallops Flight Facility Visitor Center is located at Building J-17, Wallops Island, Virginia, along Route 175.

**MEDIA ADVISORY: Members of the media interested in covering this event should RSVP to Ted Brown, USFF Public Affairs, (757) 836-4427 or Rebecca Hudson, Wallops Flight Facility Public Affairs, (757) 824.1139 by close of business Wednesday, March 16.**