



The mission of the Maryland Port Administration (MPA) is to stimulate the flow of waterborne commerce through the State of Maryland in a manner that provides benefit to the citizens of the state. MPA funds and facilitates a wide array of activities in Dorchester County that benefit county residents.

Economic Impact

STATEWIDE ACTIVITY

Cargo activity creates **\$647 million** of state and local taxes.

\$280.5 million in taxes are received by county and local governments.

The Port of Baltimore generates **more than 20,300 direct jobs.**

DORCHESTER COUNTY ACTIVITY



Planned federal and state investment of **\$4.43 billion** to restore Barren and James islands with dredged material.



Over \$1.1 billion is estimated to be spent on the project over 43 years.



Generate **\$2 billion** in direct business sales statewide over the life of the Mid-Bay Project.



Approximately **\$549 million** is estimated to be spent on site construction, management, and monitoring over the life of the project.

DREDGED MATERIAL DOING GOOD



Today's largest cargo ships require 50-foot deep channels to navigate safely to the Port of Baltimore. The necessary dredging creates a lot of sediment, enough to fill Ravens Stadium to the brim twice each year. Dredged material from the Chesapeake Bay is used primarily to **rebuild eroded islands in the bay, such as Poplar Island.** So clearing channels supports the regional economy and the environment.

PLANNING FOR TOMORROW'S DREDGED MATERIAL PLACEMENT NEEDS

As part of MPA's mandated rolling 20-year plan, and building on the success of the Paul S. Sarbanes Ecosystem Restoration Project at Poplar Island, or Poplar Island, MPA and the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) identified additional eroded islands to restore with dredged material. Called **the Mid-Bay Project**, MPA and USACE will restore 2,144 acres of remote island habitat at James and Barren Islands in Dorchester County. This project represents the Port's long-term placement plan for dredged material lasting until 2066.

The MPA's Office of Navigation, Innovation, and Stewardship plays a crucial role in ensuring safe navigation for vessels by managing the sediment dredged from the Port's channels to maintain their depth and width. Dredged material is placed in containment facilities, is used to rebuild eroded land, and the Port is now exploring innovative new ways to commercialize this material.



TERRAPIN EDUCATION RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP (TERP) PROGRAM IN DORCHESTER COUNTY

MPA's environmental team works with local schools to raise diamondback hatchlings from Poplar Island. Students are able to nurture the hatchlings in their classroom until they're ready to head back to Poplar Island and live on their own.

- **57 terrapins nurtured in Dorchester County** have been released
- **86% of all Dorchester County elementary schools** have participated in this program.

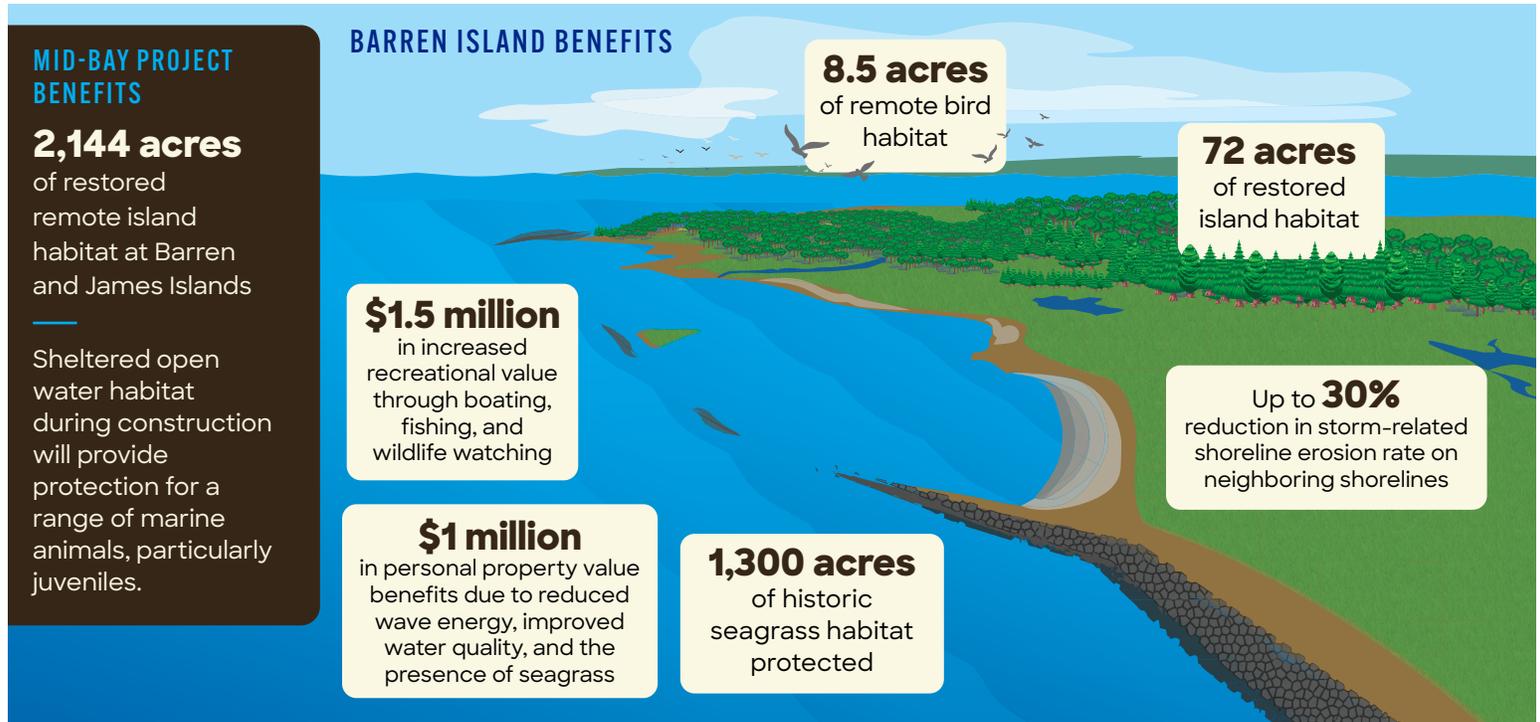




Environmental Impact

THE MID-BAY PROJECT

MPA's commitment to rebuilding Barren and James islands will restore marshland and terrestrial habitat that has nearly completely eroded. This restored land will provide important habitat for fish, shellfish, reptiles, amphibians, birds, and mammals. To enhance the ecological value of the project, MPA and USACE hosted workshops with resource and regulatory agencies to gather input on incorporating Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) into the design of James Island. Based on this feedback, several NBS alternatives were developed and their viability is being assessed. Viable NBS options could be integrated into the final project design.



Community Impacts

Dorchester County benefits from MPA's educational and community programs for youth and families. MPA supports ongoing funding and organization of these programs.

MPA has engaged **over 650 community members** at Dorchester County events including:

- Groove City Culture Fest
- Nause-Waiwash Native American Festival
- Taste of Cambridge
- Dorchester Showcase
- Mid-Bay Project Public Meetings



MPA brings together local leaders in a **Mid-Bay Community Stakeholder Group** to gather input, share updates and stay connected as the project moves forward. This group brings new ideas and helps shape outreach and engagement efforts reflecting community needs.



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