

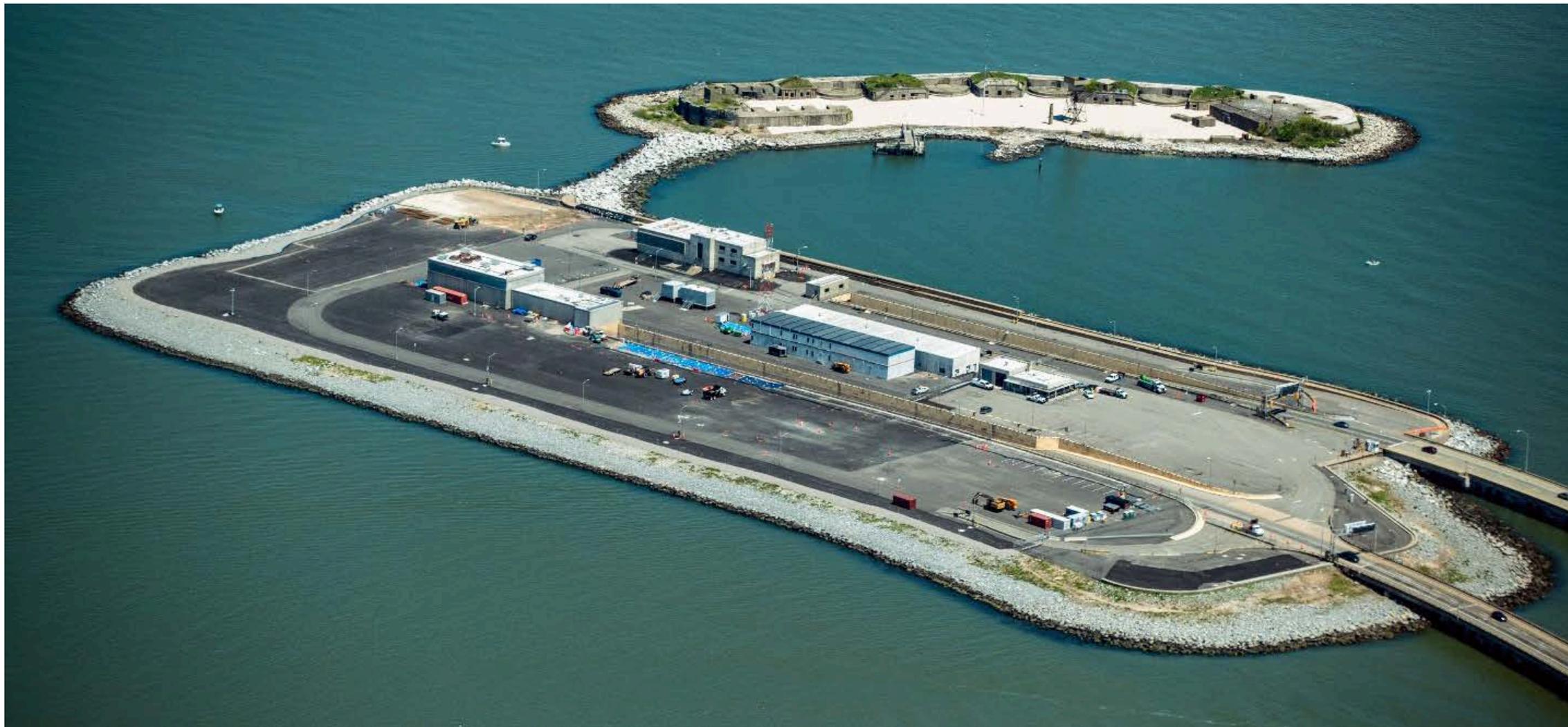
FORT WOOL AND BARGE ARTIFICIAL HABITATS

Near the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel Expansion Project

 Chief Deputy Commissioner Robert Cary, P.E. L.S.

May 20, 2020

Virginia's Success with the Colonial Seabirds at HRBT



Virginia's Success with the Colonial Seabirds at HRBT



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Virginia's Success with the Colonial Seabirds at HRBT

- Fort Wool work complete
 - Over 2,000 Royal Terns already nesting on the sandy habitat at Fort Wool
 - Laughing Gulls nesting in the rip rap
 - Fantastic rookery of Snowy Egrets not previously documented in the area
 - Increased presence of Common Terns and Black Skimmers (Some courtship but no incubating birds identified yet)
 - Gull-Billed Terns are being heard and seen over South Island
 - Hope to attract Common Terns, Black Skimmers and Gull-Billed Terns to the barges once decoys are placed
 - Barges were installed last week
 - DGIF believes the sand on the barges makes a great nesting habitat
 - VDOT paying all costs for these successful new alternative habitats
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