

Spaceport Camden

Issuance of a Launch Site Operators License in Camden County would allow the construction of a commercial space launch site (Spaceport Camden) and commercial operators to conduct launches of liquid-fueled, small-lift class orbital vertical launch vehicles directly over Georgia's saltwater marsh and Cumberland Island National Seashore.

Cumberland Island is a major stopping point on the transatlantic migratory flyway for threatened and endangered species, including Bald Eagles, Wood Storks, Wilson's Plovers, and American Oystercatchers. Its surrounding waters guide whales and manatees through migration; endangered North Atlantic Right Whales calf close offshore ; multiple species of endangered sea turtles nest on its shores.

Tidal marshes are a vital component of Georgia's ecosystem and economy. Toxic spills or explosions would have disastrous, potentially irreversible consequences that would affect far more than the local economy.

Rocket launches will require extensive closures of public waterways including the Satilla River, St. Andrews Sound, and the Intracoastal Waterway. This will also include public fishing areas inshore/offshore, bait zones, shellfish harvest areas, and reefs.

More than 5,000 acres of tidewaters identified as Potential Wilderness will be appropriated for launches by spaceport officials into the spaceport Safety Zone.

The FAA will issue its final decision for the Spaceport Camden launch site in March 2021.

Resources: norocketsoverwilderness.org protectcumberlandisland.org coastalgadnr.org/spaceport wildcumberland.org