
8 Public Involvement and Distribution

Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/ Overseas Environmental Impact Statement

Northwest Training and Testing

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8 Public Involvement and Distribution

This chapter includes a summary of the public involvement and stakeholder outreach activities conducted by the United States (U.S.) Navy (Navy) during the scoping period and the public review and comment period for the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (OEIS) (Supplemental) for Northwest Training and Testing (NWTT). The scoping period was held from August 22, 2017, to October 6, 2017. The Draft Supplemental was released for public review March 29, 2019, through May 28, 2019. The public comment period was extended by an additional 15 days, to close on June 12, 2019.

The purpose of public involvement during the public scoping period was to (1) notify and inform stakeholders and the public about the Proposed Action, and (2) provide opportunities for the public to comment on the scope of the analysis, including environmental issues and potential viable alternatives. The purpose of public involvement and outreach during the public review and comment period of the Draft Supplemental was to (1) notify and inform stakeholders and the public about the Proposed Action and the release of the Draft Supplemental, and (2) provide the opportunity for the public and stakeholders to comment on the Draft Supplemental.

Outreach and involvement efforts were conducted in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act and Navy guidance.

8.1 Project Website

A project website was established to provide the public with project, public meeting, and commenting information, and to accept comments electronically. The project website address is www.NWTTTEIS.com and has been active since 2012.

The website address was included in the *Federal Register Notice of Intent to Prepare a Supplemental EIS/OEIS* and the *Federal Register Notice of Public Meetings*. It was also included in newspaper advertisements, stakeholder and federally recognized tribes notification letters, press releases, public service announcements, and postcard mailers disseminated for the Notice of Intent and Notice of Availability.

Public notifications, fact sheet booklets, posters, maps, frequently asked questions, technical reports, informational videos, and other public involvement information are available on the project website and will be available throughout the course of the project. The website is periodically updated with project announcements, which are emailed to website subscribers.

8.2 Scoping Period

The public scoping period began with issuance of the Notice of Intent in the *Federal Register* (FR) August 22, 2017 (82 FR 39779). At the request of the public and elected officials, the Navy extended the public scoping period to October 6, 2017, and a Notice of Extension of Scoping Period was published in the *Federal Register* September 20, 2017 (82 FR 43950). Comments on the scope of the analysis were provided by mail and through the project website. *Federal Register* notices can be found in Appendix G (*Federal Register Notices*).

8.2.1 Public Scoping Notifications

The Navy made significant efforts to notify the public to maximize public participation during the scoping process. A summary of these efforts follows.

8.2.1.1 Notification Letters

Tribal letters were mailed August 18, 2017, via priority mail to 56 tribal chairpersons and presidents of American Indian and Alaska Native tribes across the NWTT Study Area. Stakeholder letters were mailed first-class August 21, 2017, to 614 federal, state, and local elected officials and government agencies. Entities that received the scoping notification letters can be found in Table 8.2-1, and an example of a notification letter is shown in Figure 8.2-1.

Table 8.2-1: Entities that Received the Scoping Notification Letters

<i>Federally Recognized Tribes and Tribal Groups</i>	
Big Lagoon Rancheria, California	Organized Village of Saxman
Cahto Tribe of the Laytonville Rancheria	Pinoleville Pomo Nation, California
Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes	Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe
Cher-Ae Heights Indian Community of the Trinidad Rancheria, California	Potter Valley Tribe, California
Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation	Puyallup Tribe of the Puyallup Reservation
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Community of Oregon	Quileute Tribe of the Quileute Reservation
Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon	Quinault Indian Nation
Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation	Redwood Valley Little River Band of Pomo Indians
Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians	Resighini Rancheria, California
Coquille Indian Tribe	Robinson Rancheria
Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians	Round Valley Indian Tribes, Round Valley Reservation, California
Cowlitz Indian Tribe	Samish Indian Nation
Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians of California	Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe
Elk Valley Rancheria, California	Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians of California
Hoh Indian Tribe	Sherwood Valley Rancheria of Pomo Indians of California
Hoopa Valley Tribe, California	Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe of the Shoalwater Bay Indian Reservation
Hopland Band of Pomo Indians, California	Skokomish Indian Tribe
InterTribal Sinkyone Wilderness Council	Snoqualmie Indian Tribe
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe	Squaxin Island Tribe of the Squaxin Island Reservation
Karuk Tribe	Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians of Washington
Ketchikan Indian Corporation	Suquamish Indian Tribe of the Port Madison Reservation
Lower Elwha Tribal Community	Swinomish Indian Tribal Community
Lummi Tribe of the Lummi Reservation	Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation
Makah Indian Tribe of the Makah Reservation	Tulalip Tribes of Washington
Metlakatla Indian Community, Annette Island Reserve	Upper Skagit Indian Tribe
Muckleshoot Indian Tribe	Wiyot Tribe, California
Nisqually Indian Tribe	Yurok Tribe of the Yurok Reservation, California
Nooksack Indian Tribe	

Federal Elected Officials and Federal Agencies

U.S. Senators (Washington, Oregon, California, Alaska) and Staff
U.S. Representatives (Alaska at large; California Districts 1, 2, 5; Oregon Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5; Washington Districts 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9) and Staff
Battelle Pacific Northwest Laboratory
Bureau of Indian Affairs
 Northwest Regional Office
Bureau of Land Management
 Coos Bay District Office
 Oregon/Washington State Office
 Spokane District Office
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
 Pacific Outer Continental Shelf Region
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement
 Office of Offshore Regulatory Programs
Federal Aviation Administration
 Western-Pacific Region
Fisheries and Oceans Canada Pacific Region
Marine Mammal Commission
National Marine Protected Areas Center
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
 National Marine Fisheries Service
 Arcata Field Office
 Office of Protected Resources
 Endangered Species Act Interagency Cooperation Division
 Marine Mammal Permitting
 West Coast Region
 Northwest Regional Office
 Northwest Fisheries Science Center
 Oregon Office
 Southwest Oregon Habitat Branch
 Washington Coast/Lower Columbia Habitat Branch
 Washington Habitat Branch
 Ukiah Field Office
 Office of Law Enforcement
National Park Service
 Olympic National Park
Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary
 Advisory Council
Pacific Fishery Management Council
Puget Sound Federal Caucus
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Army National Guard, Boardman Oregon
U.S. Coast Guard
 District 13
 District 17
 Office of Operating and Environmental Standards
U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service
 Olympic National Forest
 Pacific Northwest Region U.S. Department of Commerce
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region X
 Environmental Review & Sediment Management Unit

<p>National Environmental Protection Agency Compliance Division</p> <p>U.S. Geological Survey</p> <p>Alaska Science Center</p> <p>Northwest Region Office</p> <p>Pacific Region Office</p> <p>Western Fisheries Research Center</p> <p>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service</p> <p>Arcata Office</p> <p>Pacific Region</p> <p>Region 7</p> <p>Washington Maritime Wildlife Refuge Complex</p> <p>Western Washington Office</p> <p>Consultation & Conservation Planning Division</p> <p>Quilcene National Fish Hatchery</p>
State Elected Officials and State Agencies
<p>Office of the Governor (Washington, Oregon, California, Alaska) and Staff</p> <p>State Senators (Washington Districts 1, 2, 7, 10, 19, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31, 32, 35, 38, 39, 44; Oregon Districts 1, 5, 16, 28, 29; California Districts 1, 2, 4; Alaska Districts A, B, C) and Staff</p> <p>State Representatives (Washington Districts 1, 2, 7, 10, 19, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31, 32, 35, 38, 39, 44; Oregon Districts 1, 9, 10, 31, 32, 57; California District 1; Alaska Districts 1, 2, 3, 4) and Staff</p> <p>Alaska Department of Commerce</p> <p>Community and Economic Development</p> <p>Division of Community and Regional Affairs</p> <p>Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation</p> <p>Division of Air Quality</p> <p>Division of Administrative Services</p> <p>Division of Environmental Health</p> <p>Division of Spill Prevention and Response</p> <p>Division of Water</p> <p>Alaska Department of Fish & Game</p> <p>Commercial Fisheries Division</p> <p>Division of Wildlife Conservation</p> <p>Habitat</p> <p>Sport Fish Division</p> <p>Sport Fishing</p> <p>Subsistence</p> <p>Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs</p> <p>Alaska Department of Natural Resources</p> <p>Public Information Center</p> <p>Division of Forestry</p> <p>Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys</p> <p>Division of Mining, Land, and Water</p> <p>Division of Oil and Gas</p> <p>Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation</p> <p>Office of History and Archaeology</p> <p>Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities</p> <p>Division of Ports and Harbors</p> <p>Division of Statewide Aviation</p> <p>Alaska Marine Highway</p> <p>Alaska Statement of Cooperation</p> <p>California Coastal Commission</p> <p>California Department of Fish and Wildlife</p>

California Department of Toxic Substances Control
California Environmental Protection Agency
California Resources Agency
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
 Water Quality
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Oregon Department of Forestry
Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development
Oregon Department of State Lands
Oregon Military Department
Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
Puget Sound Partnership
Regulatory Commission of Alaska
Scappoose Industrial Air Park
Washington Coastal Marine Advisory Council
Washington State Department of Agriculture
 Policy and Communications
Washington State Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation
Washington State Department of Ecology
 Northwest Regional Office
 Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program
 Southwest Regional Office
Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 6
Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Washington State Fish and Wildlife Commission
Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Local Elected Officials and Local Agencies

Washington State
 City of Aberdeen
 City of Bainbridge Island
 City of Everett
 City of Forks
 City of Gig Harbor
 City of Hoquiam
 City of Oak Harbor
 City of Oak Harbor Planning Services Division
 City of Ocean Shores
 City of Port Angeles
 City of Port Orchard
 City of Port Townsend
 City of Poulsbo
 City of Sequim
 City of Shelton
 City of Tacoma
 City of Westport
 Clallam County Board of Commissioners
 Friday Harbor Airport
 Grays Harbor County Board of Commissioners
 Island County Board of Commissioners
 Jefferson County Board of Commissioners
 Kitsap County Board of Commissioners

Mason County	
Pacific County Board of Commissioners	
Pierce County Council	
San Juan County Council	
Snohomish County Council	
Oregon State	
City of Astoria	
City of Bandon	
City of Bay City	
City of Brookings	
City of Cannon Beach	
City of Coos Bay	
City of Depoe Bay	
City of Garibaldi	
City of Gearhart	
City of Gold Beach	
City of Lakeside	
City of Lincoln City	
City of Manzanita	
City of Nehalem	
City of Newport	
City of North Bend	
City of Port Orford	
City of Reedsport	
City of Rockaway Beach	
City of Seaside	
City of Tillamook	
City of Warrenton	
City of Wheeler	
City of Yachats	
Clatsop County Board of Commissioners	
Coos County Board of Commissioners	
Curry County Board of Commissioners	
Depoe Bay Nearshore Action Team	
Lane County Board of Commissioners	
Lincoln County	
Office of Lincoln County	
Port Orford Watershed Council	
Tillamook County Board of Commissioners	
California State	
City of Arcata	
City of Crescent City	
City of Eureka	
City of Fort Bragg	
City of Point Arena	
City of Trinidad	
Del Norte County Board of Supervisors	
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors	
Humboldt County Democratic Central Committee	
Mendocino County Board of Supervisors	
Alaska State	
City of Ketchikan	
Ketchikan Gateway	



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

COMMANDER
UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
250 MAKALAPA DRIVE
PEARL HARBOR, HAWAII 96860-3131

IN REPLY REFER TO:
5090
Ser N465/0952
August 21, 2017

Dear Sir or Madam:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF INTENT TO PREPARE A SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT STATEMENT/OVERSEAS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
STATEMENT FOR NORTHWEST TRAINING AND TESTING

This letter is to inform you that the Department of the Navy (Navy) is preparing a supplement to the 2015 Northwest Training and Testing (NWTT) Final Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) to assess the potential environmental effects associated with ongoing and future at-sea military readiness activities conducted within the NWTT EIS/OEIS Study Area (hereafter referred to as the "Study Area"). Military readiness activities include training and research, development, testing, and evaluation (hereafter referred to as "training and testing"). The Navy is requesting your comments on the scope of the analysis, including potential environmental issues and viable alternatives to be considered during the development of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

The Navy previously completed an EIS/OEIS in 2015, for which a Record of Decision was signed in October 2016, for at-sea training and testing activities occurring within the Study Area. The supplement to the 2015 Final EIS/OEIS is being prepared to support ongoing and future activities conducted at sea within the Study Area beyond 2020. Proposed training and testing activities are generally consistent with those analyzed in the 2015 Final EIS/OEIS and are representative of activities the Navy has been conducting in the Study Area for decades.

The Supplemental EIS/OEIS will include an analysis of training and testing activities using new information available after the release of the 2015 Final EIS/OEIS. New information includes an updated acoustic effects model, updated marine mammal density data, and evolving and emergent best available science. As part of this process, the Navy will seek the issuance of federal regulatory permits and authorizations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act to support ongoing and future at-sea military readiness activities within the Study Area beyond 2020.

The Study Area remains unchanged since the 2015 Final EIS/OEIS (Enclosure 1). The Study Area is comprised of established maritime operating areas and warning areas in the northeastern Pacific Ocean, including areas within the Strait of Juan de Fuca, Puget Sound, and the Western Behm Canal in southeastern Alaska. The Study Area includes air and water space within and outside Washington state waters, air and water space outside state waters of Oregon and Northern California, and Navy pierside locations where sonar maintenance and testing occur. In the supplement to the 2015 Final EIS/OEIS, the Navy will only analyze those training and testing activities conducted at sea within the Study Area.

Figure 8.2-1: Stakeholder Scoping Notification Letter

5090
Ser N465/0952
August 21, 2017

The Proposed Action is to conduct at-sea training and testing activities within the Study Area. Activities include the use of active sonar and explosives while employing marine species protective mitigation measures. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to maintain a ready force, which is needed to ensure the Navy can accomplish its mission to maintain, train, and equip combat-ready naval forces capable of winning wars, deterring aggression, and maintaining freedom of the seas, consistent with Congressional direction in section 5062 of Title 10 of the U.S. Code.

To achieve and maintain military readiness, the Navy proposes to:

- Conduct at-sea training and testing activities at levels required to support military readiness requirements beyond 2020; and
- Accommodate evolving mission requirements, including those resulting from the development, testing, and introduction of new vessels, aircraft, and weapons systems into the fleet.

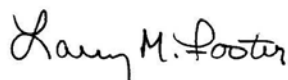
Public comments will be accepted during the 30-day scoping period beginning August 22, 2017 and extending through September 21, 2017. Comments must be postmarked or received online by **September 21, 2017** for consideration in the development of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS. Comments may be submitted online at www.NWTTEIS.com, or by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest
Attention: NWTT Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
3730 North Charles Porter Avenue, Building 385
Oak Harbor, WA 98278-3500

For more information, please visit the project website at www.NWTTEIS.com or contact Ms. Jackie Queen, NWTT Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager, at 360-257-3852, or email jackie.queen@navy.mil.

Please help the Navy inform the community about the intent to prepare the Supplemental EIS/OEIS for at-sea training and testing in the Pacific Northwest by sharing this information with your staff and interested individuals.

Sincerely,

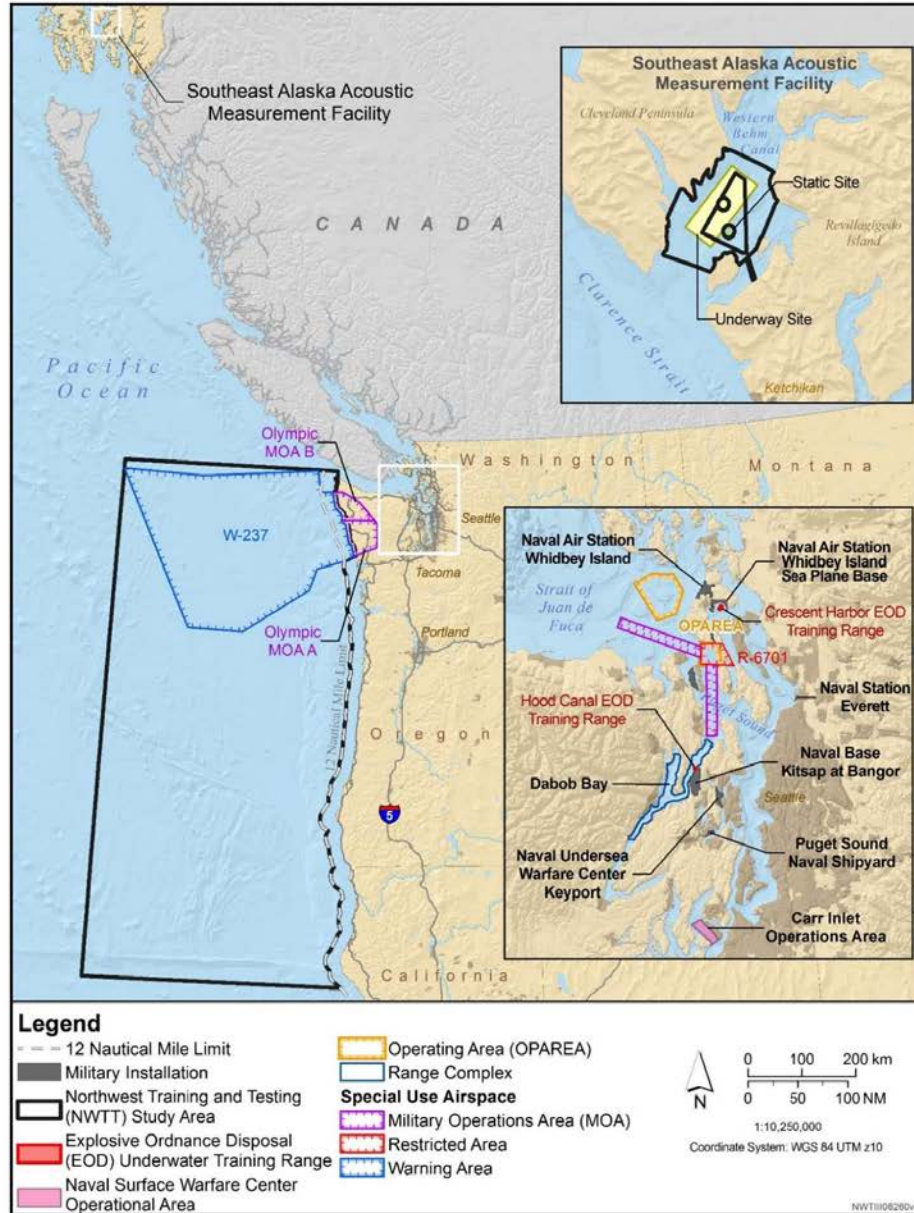


L. M. FOSTER
By direction

Enclosure: 1. Northwest Training and Testing Supplemental Environmental Impact
Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement Study Area

Figure 8.2-1: Stakeholder Scoping Notification Letter (continued)

Enclosure 1: Northwest Training and Testing Supplemental
Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement Study Area



Enclosure (1)

Figure 8.2-1: Stakeholder Scoping Notification Letter (continued)

8.2.1.2 Postcard Mailer

A postcard was mailed first-class to 1,655 individuals, community groups, tribal staff, and nongovernmental organizations August 21, 2017. The postcard provided information about the Proposed Action, the website address, and how to submit public comments. An example of the postcard is shown in Figure 8.2-2.



NORTHWEST TRAINING AND TESTING SUPPLEMENTAL EIS/OEIS FOR TRAINING AND TESTING ACTIVITIES BEYOND 2020

The Navy welcomes your input!



The U.S. Navy invites you to participate in the National Environmental Policy Act public involvement process for the Northwest Training and Testing (NWT) Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS).

The Navy is preparing a Supplemental EIS/OEIS to assess the potential environmental effects associated with ongoing and future at-sea military readiness activities conducted within the NWT EIS/OEIS Study Area beyond 2020.

The Navy is requesting your comments on the scope of the analysis to be considered during the development of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS.


You can participate in the public involvement process in the following ways:

- Visit **www.NWTTEIS.com** to learn more about the project and submit comments online.
- Mail written comments to:
Naval Facilities Engineering
Command Northwest
Attention: NWT Supplemental
EIS/OEIS Project Manager
3730 North Charles Porter Ave.
Building 385
Oak Harbor, WA 98278-3500

Comments must be postmarked or received online by **Sept. 21, 2017 for consideration in the development of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS.**

Proposed Action

The Proposed Action is to conduct at-sea training and testing activities within the Study Area. Activities include the use of active sonar and explosives while employing marine species protective mitigation measures. Proposed training and testing activities are generally consistent with those analyzed in the 2015 Final EIS/OEIS and are representative of activities the Navy has been conducting in the Study Area for decades.



Naval Facilities Engineering
Command Northwest
Attention: NWT Supplemental
EIS/OEIS Project Manager
3730 North Charles Porter Ave.
Building 385
Oak Harbor, WA 98278-3500

For more information or to submit comments online, visit **www.NWTTEIS.com**.

Figure 8.2-2: Postcard Mailer for Scoping (Front and Back)


8.2.1.3 Newspaper Advertisements

Display advertisements were placed in local newspapers to advertise the public's opportunity to comment on the scope of the analysis. The advertisements included a description of the Proposed Action, the address of the project website, the duration of the comment period, and information on how to provide comments. The newspapers and publication dates are indicated in Table 8.2-2. An example of the advertisement is shown in Figure 8.2-3.

Table 8.2-2: Newspaper Publications for Scoping

Newspaper	Newspaper Coverage	Publication Dates
The Juneau Empire	Juneau, Alaska	Tuesday, August 22, 2017 Wednesday, August 23, 2017 Thursday, August 24, 2017
Ketchikan Daily News	Ketchikan, Alaska	Tuesday, August 22, 2017 Wednesday, August 23, 2017 Thursday, August 24, 2017
Eureka Times-Standard	Eureka, California	Tuesday, August 22, 2017 Wednesday, August 23, 2017 Thursday, August 24, 2017
Fort Bragg Advocate-News	Fort Bragg, California	Thursday, August 24, 2017 Thursday, August 31, 2017 Thursday, September 7, 2017
The Daily Astorian	Astoria, Oregon	Tuesday, August 22, 2017 Wednesday, August 23, 2017 Thursday, August 24, 2017
Newport News-Times	Newport, Oregon	Wednesday, August 23, 2017 Friday, August 25, 2017 Wednesday, August 30, 2017
The Oregonian	Portland, Oregon	Wednesday, August 23, 2017 Friday, August 25, 2017 Saturday, August 26, 2017
The Daily Herald	Everett, Washington	Tuesday, August 22, 2017 Wednesday, August 23, 2017 Thursday, August 24, 2017
The Daily World	Aberdeen, Washington	Tuesday, August 22, 2017 Thursday, August 24, 2017 Saturday, August 26, 2017
Forks Forum	Forks, Washington	Thursday, August 24, 2017 Thursday, August 31, 2017 Thursday, September 7, 2017
Journal of the San Juan Islands	San Juan Island, Washington	Wednesday, August 23, 2017 Wednesday, August 30, 2017 Wednesday, September 6, 2017

Newspaper	Newspaper Coverage	Publication Dates
The Kitsap Sun	Kitsap, Washington	Tuesday, August 22, 2017 Wednesday, August 23, 2017 Thursday, August 24, 2017
Peninsula Daily News	Port Angeles, Washington	Tuesday, August 22, 2017 Wednesday, August 23, 2017 Thursday, August 24, 2017
Port Townsend and Jefferson County Leader	Port Townsend, Washington	Wednesday, August 23, 2017 Wednesday, August 30, 2017 Wednesday, September 6, 2017
The Seattle Times	Seattle, Washington	Tuesday, August 22, 2017 Wednesday, August 23, 2017 Thursday, August 24, 2017
Sequim Gazette	Sequim, Washington	Wednesday, August 23, 2017 Wednesday, August 30, 2017 Wednesday, September 6, 2017
Whidbey News-Times	Whidbey Island, Washington	Wednesday, August 23, 2017 Saturday, August 26, 2017 Wednesday, August 30, 2017



**The U.S. Navy
INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE
in the Northwest
Training and Testing
Supplemental EIS/OEIS Process**

The U.S. Navy is preparing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) to assess the potential environmental effects associated with ongoing and future at-sea military readiness activities conducted within the Northwest Training and Testing (NWT) EIS/OEIS Study Area beyond 2020.

Public Involvement Opportunity

The Navy is requesting your comments on the scope of the analysis to be considered during the development of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS. Comments will be accepted online at **www.NWTTEIS.com**, or by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest
Attention: NWT Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
3730 North Charles Porter Ave., Building 385
Oak Harbor, WA 98278-3500

All comments must be postmarked or received online by Sept. 21, 2017 for consideration in the development of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

Figure 8.2-3: Newspaper Announcement for Scoping

8.2.1.4 Press Releases

Commander, Navy Region Northwest Public Affairs Office distributed a press release to local and regional media outlets August 22, 2017. A second news release was distributed to media outlets September 15, 2017, and that same press release was redistributed October 2, 2017. The first press release provided information on the Proposed Action and how to submit comments. The second press release provided information on the public scoping comment period extension, the Proposed Action, and how to submit comments. The press releases from the Commander, Navy Region Northwest are shown in Figure 8.2-4 and Figure 8.2-5.



COMMANDER, NAVY REGION NORTHWEST

Public Affairs Office
1100 Hunley Rd., Silverdale, WA 98315-1100
Phone: 360-396-1630 Fax: 360-396-7127

Aug. 22, 2017

Release # 0823417

U.S. NAVY SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT ON THE NORTHWEST TRAINING AND TESTING SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/OVERSEAS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

SILVERDALE, Wash — The U.S. Navy is preparing a supplement to the 2015 Northwest Training and Testing (NWTT) Final Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) to assess the potential environmental effects associated with ongoing and future at-sea military readiness activities conducted within the NWTT EIS/OEIS Study Area (hereafter referred to as the "Study Area"). Military readiness activities include training and research, development, testing, and evaluation (hereafter referred to as "training and testing"). The Navy is requesting public comments on the scope of the analysis, including potential environmental issues and viable alternatives to be considered during the development of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

The Navy previously completed an EIS/OEIS in 2015, for which a Record of Decision was signed in October 2016, for at-sea training and testing activities occurring within the Study Area. The supplement to the 2015 Final EIS/OEIS is being prepared to support ongoing and future activities conducted at sea within the Study Area beyond 2020. Proposed training and testing activities are generally consistent with those analyzed in the 2015 Final EIS/OEIS and are representative of activities the Navy has been conducting in the Study Area for decades.

The Supplemental EIS/OEIS will include an analysis of training and testing activities using new information available after the release of the 2015 Final EIS/OEIS. New information includes an updated acoustic effects model, updated marine mammal density data, and evolving and emergent best available science. As part of this process, the Navy will seek the issuance of federal regulatory permits and authorizations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act to support ongoing and future at-sea military readiness activities within the Study Area beyond 2020.

Proposed Action:

The Proposed Action is to conduct at-sea training and testing activities within the Study Area. Activities include the use of active sound navigation and ranging (sonar) and explosives while employing marine species protective mitigation measures.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to maintain a ready force, which is needed to ensure the Navy can accomplish its mission to maintain, train, and equip combat-ready naval forces capable of winning wars, deterring aggression, and maintaining freedom of the seas, consistent with Congressional direction in section 5062 of Title 10 of the U.S. Code.

To achieve and maintain military readiness, the Navy proposes to:

-more-

Figure 8.2-4: Scoping Press Release

NWTT SUPPLEMENTAL EIS/OEIS -2-

- Conduct at-sea training and testing activities at levels required to support military readiness requirements beyond 2020; and
- Accommodate evolving mission requirements, including those resulting from the development, testing, and introduction of new vessels, aircraft, and weapons systems into the fleet.

The Study Area remains unchanged since the 2015 Final EIS/OEIS. The Study Area is comprised of established maritime operating areas and warning areas in the northeastern Pacific Ocean, including areas within the Strait of Juan de Fuca, Puget Sound, and the Western Behm Canal in southeastern Alaska. The Study Area includes air and water space within and outside Washington state waters, air and water space outside state waters of Oregon and Northern California, and Navy pierside locations where sonar maintenance and testing occur. In the supplement to the 2015 Final EIS/OEIS, the Navy will only analyze those training and testing activities conducted at sea within the Study Area.

Scoping Comment Period for the Supplemental EIS/OEIS:

The 30-day scoping comment period begins Aug. 22, 2017 through Sept. 21, 2017. Comments must be postmarked or received online by **Sept. 21, 2017** for consideration in the development of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS. Comments may be submitted online at www.NWTTEIS.com, or by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest
Attention: NWTT Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
3730 North Charles Porter Ave., Building 385
Oak Harbor, WA 98278-3500

Scoping meetings are not being held at this stage of the process because the Proposed Action does not differ substantially from the 2015 Final EIS/OEIS. However, public meetings are planned to occur following the release of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS in early 2019. For additional project information, please visit the project website at www.NWTTEIS.com.

Please help inform your community by sharing the information in this press release.

Should you have trouble accessing the project website, please email ProjectManager@nwtteis.com for assistance. For other information about your Navy in the Northwest Region, please visit the Navy Region Northwest website at www.cnrc.navy.mil/cnrmw.

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Figure 8.2-4: Scoping Press Release (continued)



COMMANDER, NAVY REGION NORTHWEST

Public Affairs Office
1100 Hunley Road, Silverdale, WA 98315-1100
Phone: 360-396-1630 Fax: 360-396-7127

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Release #17-258

Sept. 15, 2017

NAVY EXTENDS PUBLIC SCOPING COMMENT PERIOD FOR NORTHWEST TRAINING AND TESTING SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/OVERSEAS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

SILVERDALE, Wash. — The U.S. Navy is extending the public scoping comment period for the Northwest Training and Testing (NWT) Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/ Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) through Oct. 6, 2017, to allow the public more time to submit substantive comments. Scoping, which is conducted in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, is a process where the public is encouraged to participate in the development of an environmental impact statement by identifying the scope of the analysis, including potential environmental issues and viable alternatives.

The Navy is preparing a supplement to the 2015 NWT Final EIS/OEIS to assess the potential environmental effects associated with military readiness activities conducted within the NWT EIS/OEIS Study Area (hereafter referred to as the "Study Area"). Military readiness activities include training and research, development, testing, and evaluation (hereafter referred to as "training and testing").

Scoping Comment Period Extension for the Supplemental EIS/OEIS:

The Navy is accepting comments throughout the extended public comment period, which began Aug. 22, 2017, and now runs until Oct. 6, 2017. All comments must be postmarked or received online by **Oct. 6, 2017**, for consideration in the development of the Supplemental EIS/OEIS. Comments may be submitted online at www.NWTTEIS.com, or by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest
Attention: NWT Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
3730 North Charles Porter Ave., Building 385
Oak Harbor, WA 98278-3500

Public meetings are planned to occur following the release of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS in early 2019. For additional project information, please visit the project website at www.NWTTEIS.com.

Background:

The Navy completed an EIS/OEIS in 2015 for training and testing activities occurring within the same Study Area, for which a Record of Decision was signed in October 2016. The supplement to the 2015 Final EIS/OEIS is being prepared to support future activities conducted at sea and in associated airspace within the same Study Area beyond 2020. As part of this process, the Navy will seek the issuance of federal regulatory permits and authorizations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and Endangered Species Act. Proposed training and testing activities are generally

-more-

Figure 8.2-5: Scoping Comment Extension Press Release

NWTT Supplemental EIS/OEIS -2-2-2

consistent with those analyzed in the previous EIS/OEIS and approved in the 2016 Record of Decision, and are representative of activities the Navy has been conducting in the Study Area for decades.

Proposed Action:

The Proposed Action is to conduct training and testing activities at sea and in associated airspace within the Study Area. At-sea activities include the use of active sound navigation and ranging (sonar) and explosives while employing marine species protective measures.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to maintain a ready force, which is needed to ensure the Navy can accomplish its mission to maintain, train, and equip combat-ready naval forces capable of winning wars, deterring aggression, and maintaining freedom of the seas, consistent with Congressional direction in section 5062 of Title 10 of the U.S. Code.

To achieve and maintain military readiness, the Navy proposes to:

- Conduct training and testing activities at sea and in associated airspace to support military readiness requirements beyond 2020; and
- Accommodate evolving mission requirements, including those resulting from the development, testing, and introduction of new vessels, aircraft, and weapons systems into the fleet.

The Study Area remains unchanged from the 2015 Final EIS/OEIS. The Study Area is comprised of established maritime operating areas and warning areas in the northeastern Pacific Ocean, including areas within the Strait of Juan de Fuca, Puget Sound, and the Western Behm Canal in southeastern Alaska. The Study Area includes air and water space within and outside Washington state waters, air and water space outside state waters of Oregon and Northern California, and Navy pierside locations.

Visit the project website at www.NWTEIS.com to view a map of the Study Area, learn more about the project, and submit substantive comments online.

Should you have trouble accessing the project website, please email ProjectManager@nwtteis.com for assistance. For other information about your Navy in the Northwest Region, please visit the Navy Region Northwest website at www.cnrc.navy.mil/cnmw.

Please help inform your community by sharing the information in this press release.

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Figure 8.2-5: Scoping Comment Extension Press Release (continued)

8.2.1.5 Subscriber Email Notifications

Email subscribers from Phase II were carried forward into Phase III to start with 166 initial website subscribers. An email notification was sent to these 166 website subscribers August 22, 2017, announcing the Navy's Intent to Prepare a Draft Supplemental. A second email notification was sent to 181 website subscribers September 15, 2017. The email informed the subscribers of the public scoping comment period extension dates.

8.2.2 Summary of Public Scoping Comments

Scoping comments were submitted in two ways:

- Written letters (received any time during the public comment period).
- Comments submitted directly on the project website (received any time during the public comment period).

The Navy received written and electronic comments from federal agencies, state agencies, federally recognized tribes, nongovernmental organizations, individuals, and community groups. A total of 786 comments were received. Seven hundred forty-five comments were submitted using the electronic comment form on the project website. Forty-one written comments were mailed. A sampling of some of the specific areas of concerns follows.

8.2.2.1 Proposed Action and Alternatives

- Need for clarity on the Navy's Proposed Action.
- Overview requested on how the Proposed Action fits within the broader Department of Defense training and testing occurring throughout the Pacific Northwest, western regions and states, marine coastal and oceanic environments, and Alaska.
- Concern about expansion.
- Opposition to expansion of the use of sonar and explosives.
- Concern about the impacts of dipping sonar.
- Concern for activities that are perceived as a waste of taxpayer dollars.
- Concern about the Navy conducting war games in the Pacific Northwest and creating war zones in the area.
- Recommendation to evaluate the efficacy of sonar with computer modeling rather than performing experiments in the ocean.
- Consider an alternative that maximizes opportunities to limit sound exposures to marine mammals to a level that would likely result in behavioral harassment only.
- Include a range of alternatives that meet the stated purpose and need, goals and objectives, and responds to issues identified during the scoping process.
- Encourage selection of alternatives that protect, restore, and enhance the environment.
- Provide greater details on whether Navy exercises would expand onto public beaches.
- Develop reasonable alternatives that inform decision-makers and the public of how the agencies can, in accordance with Council on Environmental Quality regulations, avoid or minimize adverse impacts or enhance the quality of the human environment.
- Evaluate an alternative that would exclude ocean waters off the California coast from all training and testing.

- Request for the Navy to broadly define the scope of the project and re-evaluate the spectrum of naval training exercises conducted in the Pacific Northwest.

8.2.2.2 National Environmental Policy Act and Public Involvement

- Request for a 60-day comment period extension.
- Request the Navy issue revised notices clarifying specific actions the Navy will analyze in this Supplemental to provide clarity on the scope of analysis.
- Request the Navy issue a revised Notice of Intent mentioning the Proposed Action's potential effects and proximity to Olympic National Park.
- Objection to developing a Supplemental rather than a new EIS/OEIS.
- Determination of whether a revised or updated Coastal Zone Management Act compliance document is required.
- Request Navy invite U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, and U.S. Forest Service to be cooperating agencies to more comprehensively evaluate impacts.

8.2.2.3 Location of Activities

- Request the Navy research other locations for training and testing.
- Request to use other areas where the Navy trains and conducts tests, and not in the marine waters of the Pacific Northwest, Alaska, and California.
- Concern about ocean areas off the Northern California coast being used for chemical tests.
- Recommendation that the Navy not test live ammunition or explosions of aerial or underwater ordnance.
- Evaluate alternate areas that would have less impact on residents and economy.

8.2.2.4 Segmentation

- Request to conduct EISs associated with the geographic area being impacted, rather than by broad resource category.
- Concern the Navy is segmenting and limiting its analysis to individual training exercises or actions to characterize its activities as minimal.
- Request aircraft training be split into a separate analysis to allow the public to engage in a more meaningful way.
- Provide information on impacts of the EA-18G Growlers in the analysis.

8.2.2.5 Environmental Impact Analysis

- Evaluate direct and indirect impacts.
- Recommend a detailed table identifying the proposed type and frequency of specific potential stressors be developed; provide to the public in advance of the release of the Draft Supplemental.
- Monitor depleted uranium in the ocean.
- Evaluate impacts of aircraft noise and the use of sonar and live explosives on humans, animals, and marine life.
- Request for comparison of baseline activities versus proposed activities.

- Concerns that training and testing exercises involving marine vessels and aircraft, explosives, electromagnetic devices, or sonar technology have the potential to negatively impact terrestrial and marine resources and diminish visitor enjoyment of national parks in the Pacific Northwest.
- Natural and cultural resources and visitor experience in three units of the National Park System may be impacted by the activities identified in this Supplemental and should be evaluated in detail:
 - Ebey's Landing National Historical Reserve,
 - Olympic National Park, and
 - San Juan Island National Historical Park.
- Request for appropriate density estimates for expended training debris, which should be calculated using the footprint area of the specific exercise.
- Focus impact discussion on specific resources and locales and avoid basing significance conclusions on averaging impacts over large areas of ocean.
- Avoid equating a lack of information with a lack of impact.
- Use project-specific thresholds to determine levels of impact to focus analysis on potentially significant environmental impacts.
- Concern over aircraft training and expansion of training areas over Olympic National Park.
- Concern that the disruption to National Parks would result in increased noise complaints from the public.
- Assess impacts of alternative on the resources and values of Olympic National Park.
- Develop and fully analyze alternatives that avoid aviation training over Olympic National Park and that minimize impacts on the Park.
- Include Olympic National Park World Heritage Site and the International Biosphere Reserve designation of Olympic National Park in the analysis.

8.2.2.6 Cumulative Impacts

- Assess cumulative impacts of naval activities on marine biota.
- Assess impacts at sea and throughout the region.
- Characterize resources, ecosystems, and communities in terms of their response to change and capacity to withstand stress.

8.2.2.7 Sediments and Water Quality Impacts

- Discuss the applicability of national standards under development by the Environmental Protection Agency under Section 312(n) of the Clean Water Act to establish the Uniform National Discharge Standards to control discharges incidental to the normal operation of military vessels.
- Include relevant updates to the fate, transport, and bioaccumulation of toxics in expended materials.
- Include relevant updates on areas that contain hazardous materials, and evaluate the potential for training and testing to resuspend contaminants.
- Evaluate whether the Navy is putting depleted uranium into marine waters.
- Concerns for groundwater or other contamination associated with Navy operations on Whidbey Island.

8.2.2.8 Air Quality

- Quantify the contribution of carbon pollution from projected military activities.
- Concerns about aerosol spraying and resulting impacts on critical habitat and species.
- Include in the scope of the analysis the greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the project, and all the effects of those emissions, including ocean acidification, climate change, and loss of species.
- Consider in the analysis the following:
 - Any adverse impact on air-quality-related values in a federal Class I area or state wilderness area.
 - Whether there are annual emissions greater than the basic Prevention of Significant Deterioration emission thresholds.
 - Any new violation of state or federal ambient air quality standards.
 - Interference with the maintenance or attainment of any state or federal ambient air quality standard in the project area.
 - Increases in the frequency or severity of existing violations of state or federal ambient air quality standard in the analysis area.
 - Exposure of nearby populations to increased levels of diesel particulate matter and other air toxics.
 - Delays in the timely attainment of any standard, interim emission reduction, or other air quality milestone.
 - Exposure of sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations.

8.2.2.9 Airborne Noise

- Develop on-the-ground noise data instead of a model.
- Include health impacts from noise, including effects of post-traumatic stress disorder.
- Analyze Growler noise complaints and impacts noise would have on tourism, residents, health, and quality of life.
- Recognize predicted noise and actual noise produced by aircraft deviates significantly.
- Concerns that models are producing wrong results.
- Request the Navy fund the collection of baseline ambient acoustic data in Olympic National Park and include the results in this Supplemental.
- Request to continue Navy flight training in Montana and other locations already disrupted by jet noise.
- Impact of aircraft and helicopter noise on farm animals and other species found in National Parks, such as the Olympic marmot.
- Analyze the impact noise would have on property values.
- Analyze effects related to the scenic, aesthetic, and cultural components of the Olympic Peninsula, including impacts on visitors to Olympic National Park who are seeking solitude and/or natural ambient noise levels.
- Analyze the impacts on nesting colonies of gulls as a result of aircraft noise over Lopez Island.

8.2.2.10 Socioeconomic Resources

- Evaluate economic impacts on tourism, property values, health, and well-being.
- Impacts on commercial fishing industry.

8.2.2.11 Terrestrial Species and Habitats/Marine Birds

- Concern that the analysis may be limited to just effects at sea, but proposed analysis of impacts on terrestrial environments should be included.
- Analyze the impacts on terrestrial species from Navy overflights.
- Impacts on wildlife that may experience increased and prolonged stress levels.

8.2.2.12 Marine Resources

- Evaluate the pollution from activities in marine waters, and state what pollutants are being added to marine waters from Navy activities.
- Concerns about disruption to the marine environment and marine species, especially from the use of active sonar and explosives.
- Refrain from measuring impacts on the marine environment according to whether population impacts would occur; harm to smaller areas and groups should be considered.
- Analyze how stressors affect habitat, as well as the physiology and behavior of marine life.
- Revise thresholds and weighting system for auditory impacts.
- Revise behavioral impact thresholds to incorporate best available science.

8.2.2.13 Marine Mammal Impacts

- Request for the Navy and National Marine Fisheries Service to include information needed to evaluate compliance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act/Endangered Species Act.
- Concerns that the Navy lies about marine species takes and mortalities to gain permits from federal agencies.
- Concerns on incidental takes and general impacts on marine species.
- Analyze the impact of pinniped colonies found near Lopez Island as a result of aircraft noise.
- Impacts on the ocean food chain due to the loss of large mammals.
- Concern that low-frequency active sonar systems violate the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

8.2.2.14 Fish/Marine Habitat

- Impacts on migrating salmon populations, damage to honing mechanisms, and takes of endangered species, including salmon and steelhead.
- Analyze impacts of noise on fish and stress hormone production from sound.
- Reach out to the Alaska Ocean Observing System for fish population/migration data.
- Incorporate latest understanding of important marine habitats reflected in current management documents.

8.2.2.15 American Indian and Alaska Native Traditional Resources

- Concerns about the evaluation of impacts on the cultural resources, and areas of importance.
- Consider impacts on cultural practices, which have religious and spiritual meaning.
- Request for best available science to include Tribal Traditional Knowledge.

- Request the Navy continue to fulfill its obligation for meaningful government-to-government tribal consultation.
- Concern about impacts on usual and accustomed treaty rights.
- Consider a tribe's human-environmental relationship.
- Consider the economic impact on the tribe.
- Concern about diminished treaty rights.
- Evaluate the possible disruption to tribal cultural practices.
- Determine impacts of noise on the cultural landscape.
- Impacts on salmon and other fish that provide subsistence to neighboring indigenous populations.

8.2.2.16 Public Health and Safety

- Determine public health effects from chaff and other toxins.
- Determine impacts from exposure to electromagnetic radiation.

8.2.2.17 Mitigation Measures

- Recommendations to establish additional mitigation areas (geographic) and time-area management (temporal) areas.
- Provide specific clean up measures that will be taken on the terrestrial and marine environment.
- Recommendation to use thermal detection for marine species.
- Concerns about inefficiencies and inadequacies of human Lookouts, and requests to analyze the effectiveness of visual monitoring.
- Move training and testing activities outside of the annual gray whale migration path, and suspend training activities during gray whale migration.
- Recommendation for Navy to engage in direct dialogue with the trawling community and develop a mutually acceptable warning system to alert trawlers when submarines are operating in the area.
- Follow current mitigation measures, including but not limited to:
 - Do not operate at night or in specific ocean areas.
 - Conduct air flights to search for species.
 - Do not operate when a species is within a certain range.
 - Do not operate when bow-riding dolphins are present.
 - Operate at less than full power.
 - Reduce speeds as directed.
- Reduce impacts to the lowest possible level.
- Provide training to Navy personnel on a tribe's history, culture, and subsistence uses.
- Consider habitat-based management and important feeding areas.
- Concerns that cultural mitigation measures are inadequate.
- Avoid areas of biological and ecological importance.
- Include an adaptive management plan, including monitoring the effectiveness of mitigation commitments.
- Include more monitoring results in this Supplemental.
- Include the public in mitigation planning.

8.3 Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement Public Review and Comment Period

The Draft Supplemental public review and comment period began with issuance of the Notice of Availability (84 FR 11972) and Notice of Public Meetings (84 FR 11936) in the *Federal Register* March 29, 2019. At the request of U.S. Representative Derek Kilmer, Washington's Sixth Congressional District, the Navy extended the public comment period by 15 days to June 12, 2019, and notices announcing the extension of the public review and comment period were published in the *Federal Register* April 18, 2019 (84 FR 16250), and April 26, 2019 (84 FR 17826). The *Federal Register* notices included notification of the availability of the Draft Supplemental and where it can be accessed; an overview of the Proposed Action and its purpose and need; public commenting information; and the locations, dates, and times of public meetings. Comments were accepted by mail, through the project website at www.NWTTEIS.com, and at the public meetings. *Federal Register* notices can be found in Appendix G (*Federal Register* Notices).

8.3.1 Notification of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement Public Review and Comment Period and Public Meetings

The Navy made significant efforts to notify the public of the release of the Draft Supplemental and the dates and locations of public meetings to maximize participation during the Draft Supplemental public review and comment period. A summary of these efforts follows.

8.3.1.1 Notification Letters

Tribal notification letters, which included a copy of the Draft Supplemental on CD-ROM, were mailed priority mail March 27, 2019, to a total of 56 tribal chairpersons and presidents of American Indian and Alaska Native tribes across the NWTT Study Area. Stakeholder letters were mailed first class March 28, 2019, to 607 federal, state, and local government agencies and elected officials. A unique letter was sent to the Washington State Historic Preservation Officer March 27, 2019. The mailing list was created using stakeholders and federally recognized tribes identified during Phase II, including all commenters and meetings attendees; Phase III Scoping commenters; and potential stakeholders and federally recognized tribes from previous Navy projects in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska. Entities that received the notification letters are listed in Table 8.3-1, and Figure 8.3-1 provides an example of the notification letter.

Table 8.3-1: Entities that Received the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement Notification Letters

Federally Recognized Tribes and Tribal Groups	
Big Lagoon Rancheria, California	Pinoleville Pomo Nation, California
Cahto Tribe of the Laytonville Rancheria	Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe
Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes	Potter Valley Tribe, California
Cher-Ae Heights Indian Community of the Trinidad Rancheria, California	Puyallup Tribe of the Puyallup Reservation
Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation	Quileute Tribe of the Quileute Reservation
Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Community of Oregon	Quinault Indian Nation
Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon	Redwood Valley Little River Band of Pomo Indians
Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation	Resighini Rancheria, California
	Robinson Rancheria
	Round Valley Indian Tribes, Round Valley Reservation, California

<p>Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians Coquille Indian Tribe Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians Cowlitz Indian Tribe Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians of California Elk Valley Rancheria, California Hoh Indian Tribe Hoopa Valley Tribe, California Hopland Band of Pomo Indians, California InterTribal Sinkyone Wilderness Council Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe Karuk Tribe Ketchikan Indian Corporation Lower Elwha Tribal Community Lummi Tribe of the Lummi Reservation Makah Indian Tribe of the Makah Reservation Metlakatla Indian Community, Annette Island Reserve Muckleshoot Indian Tribe Nisqually Indian Tribe Nooksack Indian Tribe Organized Village of Saxman</p>	<p>Samish Indian Nation Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians of California Sherwood Valley Rancheria of Pomo Indians of California Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe of the Shoalwater Bay Indian Reservation Skokomish Indian Tribe Snoqualmie Indian Tribe Squaxin Island Tribe of the Squaxin Island Reservation Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians of Washington Suquamish Indian Tribe of the Port Madison Reservation Swinomish Indian Tribal Community Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation Tulalip Tribes of Washington Upper Skagit Indian Tribe Wiyot Tribe, California Yurok Tribe of the Yurok Reservation, California</p>
Federal Elected Officials and Federal Agencies	
<p>U.S. Senators (Washington, Oregon, California, Alaska) and Staff U.S. Representatives (Alaska at large; California Districts 1, 2, 5; Oregon Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5; Washington Districts 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9) and Staff Battelle Pacific Northwest Laboratory Bureau of Indian Affairs Northwest Regional Office Bureau of Land Management Coos Bay District Office Oregon/Washington State Office San Juan Islands National Monument Spokane District Office Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Pacific Outer Continental Shelf Region Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement Office of Offshore Regulatory Programs Federal Aviation Administration Office of Policy, International Affairs, Environment and Energy Western-Pacific Region Fisheries and Oceans Canada Pacific Region Marine Mammal Commission National Marine Protected Areas Center National Park Service Olympic National Park Pacific West Region National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service Arcata Field Office</p>	

<p>Northwest Regional Office Northwest Fisheries Science Center Office of Protected Resources Endangered Species Act Interagency Cooperation Division Marine Mammal Permitting West Coast Region Oregon Office Southwest Oregon Habitat Branch Washington Coast/Lower Columbia Habitat Branch Washington Habitat Branch Office of Law Enforcement Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council Pacific Fishery Management Council U.S. Army Corps of Engineers U.S. Army National Guard U.S. Coast Guard District 13 District 17 Office of Environmental Management Office of Operating and Environmental Standards U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service Olympic National Forest Pacific Northwest Region U.S. Department of Commerce U.S. Department of the Interior Regional Office (Portland) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region X Environmental Review & Sediment Management Unit National Environmental Protection Agency Compliance Division Puget Sound Federal Caucus U.S. Geological Survey Alaska Science Center California Water Science Center Western Fisheries Research Center Western Region Office U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Arcata Office Pacific Region Region 7 Washington Maritime Wildlife Refuge Complex Western Washington Office Consultation & Conservation Planning Division Quilcene National Fish Hatchery</p>	<p>(DCS 1) State Elected Officials and State Agencies</p> <p>Office of the Governor (Washington, Oregon, California, Alaska) and Staff State Senators (Washington Districts 1, 2, 7, 10, 19, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31, 32, 35, 38, 39, 44; Oregon Districts 1, 5, 16, 28, 29; California Districts 1, 2, 4; Alaska Districts A, B, C) and Staff State Representatives (Washington Districts 1, 2, 7, 10, 19, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31, 32, 35, 38, 39, 44; Oregon Districts 1, 9, 10, 31, 32, 57; California District 1; Alaska Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) and Staff Alaska Department of Commerce Community and Economic Development Division of Community and Regional Affairs</p>
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Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
 Division of Administrative Services
 Division of Air Quality
 Division of Environmental Health
 Division of Spill Prevention and Response
 Division of Water
Alaska Department of Fish & Game
 Commercial Fisheries Division
 Division of Wildlife Conservation
 Habitat
 Sport Fish Division
 Sport Fishing
 Subsistence
Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
 Division of Forestry
 Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys
 Division of Mining, Land, and Water
 Division of Oil and Gas
 Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation
 Office of History and Archaeology
 Public Information Center
Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities
 Division of Ports and Harbors
 Division of Statewide Aviation
Alaska Marine Highway
California Coastal Commission
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
California Department of Toxic Substances Control
California Environmental Protection Agency
California Natural Resources Agency
Ebey's Landing National Historic Reserve
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
 Water Quality
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Oregon Department of Forestry
Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development
Oregon Department of State Lands
Oregon Military Department
 Public Affairs Office
Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
Oregon Water Resources Department
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
Puget Sound Partnership
Regulatory Commission of Alaska
Washington Coastal Marine Advisory Council
Washington State Department of Agriculture
 Policy and Communications
Washington State Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation
Washington State Department of Ecology
 Northwest Regional Office
 Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program
 Southwest Regional Office

Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 6
Washington State Department of Natural Resources
Washington State Fish and Wildlife Commission
Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Local Elected Officials and Local Agencies

Central Whidbey Island Fire & Rescue Station 53
City of Aberdeen
City of Anacortes Building Department
City of Bainbridge Island
City of Bremerton
City of Everett
City of Forks
City of Gig Harbor
City of Hoquiam
City of Oak Harbor
City of Oak Harbor Planning Services Division
City of Ocean Shores
City of Port Angeles
City of Port Orchard
City of Port Townsend
City of Poulsbo
City of Sequim
City of Shelton
City of Tacoma
City of Westport
Clallam County Board of Commissioners
Friday Harbor Airport
Grays Harbor County Board of Commissioners
Island County Board of Commissioners
Jefferson County Board of Commissioners
Kitsap County Board of Commissioners
Mason County
Pacific County Board of Commissioners
Pierce County Council
San Juan County Council
Snohomish County Council
Oregon State
City of Astoria
City of Bandon
City of Bay City
City of Brookings
City of Cannon Beach
City of Coos Bay
City of Depoe Bay
City of Garibaldi
City of Gearhart
City of Gold Beach
City of Lakeside
City of Lincoln City
City of Manzanita
City of Nehalem
City of Newport

City of North Bend	
City of Port Orford	
City of Reedsport	
City of Rockaway Beach	
City of Seaside	
City of Tillamook	
City of Waldport	
City of Warrenton	
City of Wheeler	
City of Yachats	
Clatsop County Board of Commissioners	
Coos County Board of Commissioners	
Curry County Board of Commissioners	
Depoe Bay Nearshore Action Team	
Lane County Board of Commissioners	
Lincoln County	
Tillamook County Board of Commissioners	
Office of Lincoln County Legal Counsel	
Port Orford Watershed Council	
California State	
City of Arcata	
City of Crescent City	
City of Eureka	
City of Fort Bragg	
City of Point Arena	
City of Trinidad	
Del Norte County Board of Supervisors	
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors	
Humboldt County Democratic Central Committee	
Mendocino County Board of Supervisors	
Alaska State	
City of Ketchikan	
Ketchikan Gateway Borough	



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

COMMANDER
UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
250 MAKALAPA DRIVE
PEARL HARBOR, HAWAII 96860-3131

IN REPLY REFER TO:
5090
Ser N465/0352
March 22, 2019

Dear Sir or Madam:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE NORTHWEST TRAINING AND
TESTING DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
STATEMENT/OVERSEAS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND
PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

This letter is to inform you that the Department of the Navy (Navy) has prepared a draft supplement to the 2015 Northwest Training and Testing (NWTT) Final Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) to assess the potential environmental impacts associated with military readiness activities within the NWTT Study Area, referred to as the "Study Area." Military readiness activities include training and research, development, testing, and evaluation activities, referred to as "training and testing." The Navy welcomes your review and comments on the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

In October 2015, the Navy completed an EIS/OEIS for training and testing activities occurring within the Study Area from 2015 through 2020, for which a Record of Decision was signed in October 2016. The supplement to the 2015 NWTT Final EIS/OEIS supports proposed ongoing and future activities conducted at sea and in associated airspace within the Study Area beyond 2020. Proposed activities are similar to those conducted in the Study Area for decades and analyzed in the 2015 document.

In the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, the Navy evaluated new, relevant information, such as more recent marine mammal density data and new scientific information, and updated the environmental analyses as appropriate. The Navy prepared the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS to support the issuance of federal regulatory permits and authorizations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act.

The Study Area remains unchanged since the 2015 analysis, and is comprised of established maritime operating areas and warning areas in the northeastern Pacific Ocean, including areas within the Strait of Juan de Fuca, Puget Sound, and the Western Behm Canal in southeastern Alaska. The Study Area includes air and water space within and outside Washington state waters and established special use airspace, Navy pierside and harbor locations within Washington state waters, and air and water space outside the state waters of Oregon and Northern California (Enclosure 1).

Figure 8.3-1: Stakeholder Letter for the Notification of Availability of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement

5090
Ser N465/0352
March 22, 2019

The Navy's Proposed Action includes the continued use of active sound navigation and ranging, known as sonar, and explosives while employing marine species mitigation measures. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to conduct training and testing activities to ensure the Navy can accomplish its mission to maintain, train, and equip combat-ready naval forces capable of winning wars, deterring aggression, and maintaining freedom of the seas, consistent with Congressional direction in section 8062 of Title 10 of the U.S. Code.

To achieve and maintain military readiness, the Navy proposes to:

- Conduct training and testing activities, at sea and in associated airspace, at levels required to support military readiness requirements beyond 2020.
- Accommodate evolving mission requirements, including those resulting from the development, testing, and introduction of new vessels, aircraft, and weapons systems into the fleet.

The Navy will hold eight open house public meetings to provide information, answer questions, and give the public an opportunity to comment on the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS. The public may arrive at any time between 5 and 8 p.m., as there will not be a presentation or public oral comment session. A stenographer will be available for the public to facilitate one-on-one oral comments; written comments can be submitted at any time during the meetings.

Concurrent with the National Environmental Policy Act public involvement process, the Navy is identifying additional consulting parties to participate in the Section 106 process under the National Historic Preservation Act regarding potential effects of the Proposed Action and alternatives on historic properties. Historic properties include districts, sites, buildings, structures, or objects listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. During each of the public meetings, an information station will be available where individuals can learn more about the Section 106 process.

Open house public meetings will be held from 5 to 8 p.m., at the following locations:

Date: Wednesday, April 24, 2019
Location: Hampton Inn Seattle/Everett Downtown Salish Room
2931 W. Marine View Drive
Everett, WA

Date: Thursday, April 25, 2019
Location: Ridgetop Middle School Cafeteria
10600 Hillsboro Drive NW
Silverdale, WA

Figure 8.3-1: Stakeholder Letter for the Notification of Availability of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (continued)

5090
Ser N465/0352
March 22, 2019

Date: Friday, April 26, 2019
Location: Naval Elks Lodge #353
131 E. First St.
Port Angeles, WA

Date: Monday, April 29, 2019
Location: Astoria High School Student Commons
1001 W. Marine Drive
Astoria, OR

Date: Tuesday, April 30, 2019
Location: Newport Performing Arts Center Lobby
777 W. Olive Street
Newport, OR

Date: Thursday, May 2, 2019
Location: Red Lion Hotel Eureka Ballroom
1929 Fourth Street
Eureka, CA

Date: Friday, May 3, 2019
Location: Dana Grey Elementary School Multipurpose Room
1197 Chestnut Street
Fort Bragg, CA

Date: Wednesday, May 8, 2019
Location: Ted Ferry Civic Center Naha and Alava Bays
888 Venetia Avenue
Ketchikan, AK

To review the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS and for additional project information, including details on the key differences between the 2015 NWTTF Final EIS/OEIS and the 2019 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, please visit the project website at www.NWTTEIS.com.

The Navy will accept comments throughout the public comment period from March 29, 2019 to May 28, 2019. All comments must be postmarked or received online by **May 28, 2019** for consideration in the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS. All comments submitted during the comment period will become part of the public record, and substantive comments will be addressed in the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

Comments may be submitted online at www.NWTTEIS.com, at the open house public meetings, or by mail to:

Figure 8.3-1: Stakeholder Letter for the Notification of Availability of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (continued)

5090
Ser N465/0352
March 22, 2019

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest
Attention: NWTT Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
3730 N. Charles Porter Avenue
Building 385
Oak Harbor, WA 98278-3500

If you would like additional information, please contact Ms. Jackie Queen, NWTT Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager, at projectmanager@nwtteis.com.

Please help the Navy inform the community about the availability of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS and public meetings by sharing this information with your staff and interested individuals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. A. McNaair', enclosed within a hand-drawn oval.

D. A. MCNAIR
Director, Environmental Readiness Division
By direction of the Commander

Enclosure: 1. Northwest Training and Testing Study Area

Figure 8.3-1: Stakeholder Letter for the Notification of Availability of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (continued)

Enclosure 1: Northwest Training and Testing Study Area

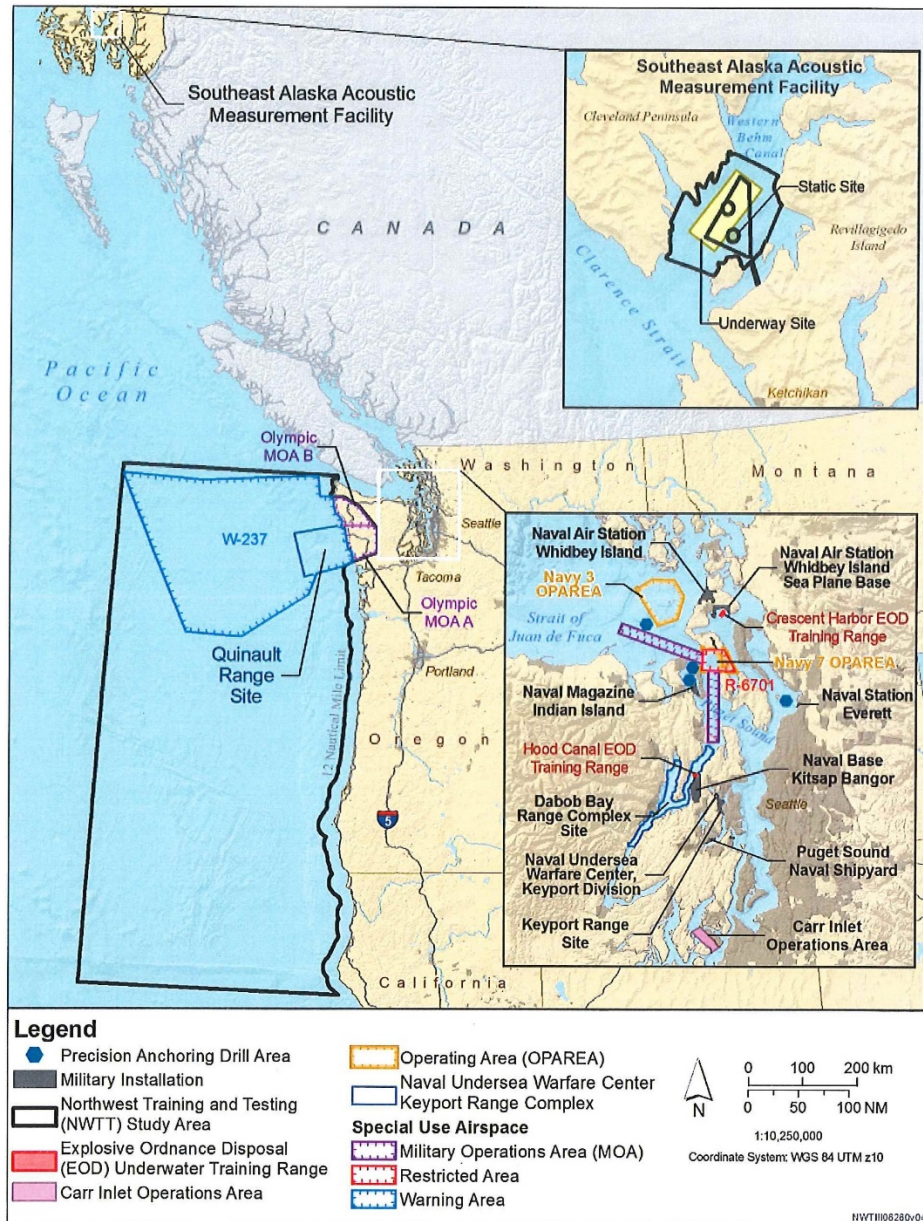


Figure 8.3-1: Stakeholder Letter for the Notification of Availability of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (continued)

8.3.1.2 Postcard Mailers

Postcards were mailed first class March 28, 2019, to a total of 2,205 recipients on the project mailing list, including individuals; federally recognized tribes staff; community and business groups; private companies; media, researchers, and universities; fishing, recreational, and marina groups; and nongovernmental organizations. A second postcard mailer announcing the public review and comment period extension was mailed first class April 22, 2019, to a total of 2,836 recipients, including the individuals and groups from the March 28, 2019, postcard mailing, in addition to the following recipients: federal, state, and local elected officials and government agencies; and federally recognized tribes chairpersons. The postcards included the dates, locations, and times of the public meetings, as well as the project website address for more information, commenting information, and a brief summary of the Proposed Action. The mailing list was created using stakeholders and federally recognized tribes identified during Phase II, including all commenters and meetings attendees; Phase III Scoping commenters; and potential stakeholders and federally recognized tribes from previous Navy projects in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska. The postcard mailers are shown on Figure 8.3-2 and Figure 8.3-3.



NORTHWEST TRAINING AND TESTING

DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL EIS/OEIS






The U.S. Navy invites you to attend public meetings for the Northwest Training and Testing (NWT) Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS).

The Navy reassessed the potential environmental impacts associated with conducting proposed ongoing and future training and testing activities within the NWT Study Area. The Navy welcomes substantive public comments on the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

OPEN HOUSE PUBLIC MEETINGS 5 TO 8 P.M.

The public may arrive anytime during the open house public meetings. Navy representatives will be available to discuss the Proposed Action and the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS. No presentation or formal oral comment session will be conducted.

You can participate in a variety of ways:

- Visit www.NWTTEIS.com to learn more about the project, download a copy of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, and submit comments online.
- Attend the open house public meetings and provide comments.
- Access the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS at public locations listed on www.NWTTEIS.com.
- Mail written comments to:
Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest
Attention: NWT Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
3730 N. Charles Porter Ave., Building 385
Oak Harbor, WA 98278-3500

WASHINGTON:

Wednesday, April 24, 2019
Hampton Inn Seattle/Everett
Downtown Salish Room
2931 W. Marine View Drive
Everett, Wash.

Thursday, April 25, 2019
Ridgetop Middle School Cafeteria
10600 Hillsboro Drive NW
Silverdale, Wash.

Friday, April 26, 2019
Naval Elks Lodge #353
131 E. First St.
Port Angeles, Wash.

OREGON:

Monday, April 29, 2019
Astoria High School Student Commons
1001 W. Marine Drive
Astoria, Ore.

Tuesday, April 30, 2019
Newport Performing Arts Center Lobby
777 W. Olive St.
Newport, Ore.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA:

Thursday, May 2, 2019
Red Lion Hotel
Eureka Ballroom
1929 Fourth St.
Eureka, Calif.

Friday, May 3, 2019
Dana Grey Elementary School Multipurpose Room
1197 Chestnut St.
Fort Bragg, Calif.

SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA:

Wednesday, May 8, 2019
Ted Ferry Civic Center Naha and Alava Bays
888 Venetia Ave.
Ketchikan, Alaska





Comments must be postmarked or received online by **May 28, 2019**, for consideration in the development of the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS.







Individuals requiring reasonable accommodations, please contact Julianne Stanford, Public Affairs Officer, at 360-396-1630 or julianne.stanford@navy.mil.

Proposed Action

The Navy's Proposed Action is to conduct training and testing activities at sea and in associated airspace within the Study Area beyond 2020. These activities continue to include the use of active sonar and explosives while employing marine species mitigation measures. Proposed activities are similar to those conducted in the Study Area for decades and analyzed in the 2015 NWT Final EIS/OEIS.

In the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, the Navy evaluated new, relevant information, such as more recent marine mammal density data and new scientific information, and updated the environmental analyses as appropriate.



The Navy requests
your input!

For more information or to submit comments online, visit www.NWTTEIS.com.


Naval Facilities Engineering
Command Northwest
Attention: NWT Supplemental EIS/OEIS
Project Manager
3730 N. Charles Porter Ave.
Building 385
Oak Harbor, WA 98278-3500

Figure 8.3-2: Notice of Draft Supplemental Public Meetings Postcard Mailer (Front and Back)



NORTHWEST TRAINING AND TESTING

DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL EIS/OEIS




This notice announces a 15-day extension of the public comment period.

The U.S. Navy has extended the public comment period by an additional 15 days for the Northwest Training and Testing (NWT) Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS). Public comments may now be submitted until **June 12, 2019**, for consideration in the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

The Navy reassessed the potential environmental impacts associated with conducting proposed ongoing and future training and testing activities within the NWT Study Area. The Navy welcomes substantive public comments on the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

You can participate in a variety of ways:

- Visit www.NWTTEIS.com to learn more about the project, download a copy of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, and submit comments online.
- Attend the open house public meetings and provide comments.
- Access the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS at public locations listed on www.NWTTEIS.com.
- Mail written comments to:
Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest
Attention: NWT Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
3730 N. Charles Porter Ave., Building 385, Admin, Room 216
Oak Harbor, WA 98278-5000

Comment Period Extension:
Comments must be postmarked or received online by **June 12, 2019**, for consideration in the development of the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

OPEN HOUSE PUBLIC MEETINGS 5 TO 8 P.M.

The public may arrive anytime during the open house public meetings. Navy representatives will be available to discuss the Proposed Action and the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS. No presentation or formal oral comment session will be conducted.

WASHINGTON: Wednesday, April 24, 2019 Hampton Inn Seattle/Everett Downtown Salish Room 2931 W. Marine View Drive Everett, Wash.	Thursday, April 25, 2019 Ridgeway Middle School Cafeteria 10600 Hillsboro Drive NW Silverdale, Wash.	Friday, April 26, 2019 Naval Elks Lodge #353 131 E. First St. Port Angeles, Wash.	
OREGON: Monday, April 29, 2019 Astoria High School Student Commons 1001 W. Marine Drive Astoria, Ore.	Tuesday, April 30, 2019 Newport Performing Arts Center Lobby 777 W. Olive St. Newport, Ore.	 	
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA: Thursday, May 2, 2019 Red Lion Hotel Eureka Ballroom 1929 Fourth St. Eureka, Calif.	Friday, May 3, 2019 Dana Grey Elementary School Multipurpose Room 1197 Chestnut St. Fort Bragg, Calif.		
SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA: Wednesday, May 8, 2019 Ted Ferry Civic Center Naha and Alava Bays 888 Venetia Ave. Ketchikan, Alaska			

Individuals requiring reasonable accommodations, please contact Julianne Stanford, Public Affairs Officer, at 360-396-1630 or julianne.stanford@navy.mil.

Proposed Action

The Navy's Proposed Action is to conduct training and testing activities at sea and in associated airspace within the Study Area beyond 2020. These activities continue to include the use of active sonar and explosives while employing marine species mitigation measures. Proposed activities are similar to those conducted in the Study Area for decades and analyzed in the 2015 NWT Final EIS/OEIS.

In the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, the Navy evaluated new, relevant information, such as more recent marine mammal density data and new scientific information, and updated the environmental analyses as appropriate.





The Navy requests your input!

For more information or to submit comments online, visit www.NWTTEIS.com.

Naval Facilities Engineering
Command Northwest
Attention: NWT Supplemental EIS/OEIS
Project Manager
3730 N. Charles Porter Ave.
Building 385, Admin, Room 216
Oak Harbor, WA 98278-5000

Figure 8.3-3: Notice of Draft Supplemental Comment Period Extension Postcard Mailer (Front and Back)

8.3.1.3 Newspaper Advertisements


To announce the availability of the Draft Supplemental, public meetings, and comment period extension, display advertisements were placed in local newspapers, as shown in Table 8.3-2. The advertisements included a brief description of the Proposed Action, the public meeting dates and locations (meeting location was tailored for each state: Washington, Oregon, Northern California, and southeastern Alaska), the project website address, the duration of the comment period, and information on how to provide comments. Examples of the advertisements that ran in Washington State are shown in Figure 8.3-4 and Figure 8.3-5.

Table 8.3-2: Newspaper Publications for Draft Supplemental Public Review and Comment Period and Extension of Public Comment Period

Newspaper	Newspaper Coverage	Publication Dates
The Juneau Empire	Juneau, Alaska	Notice of Availability/Notice of Public Meetings: Friday, March 29, 2019 Comment Period Extension Notice: Sunday, May 5, 2019 Tuesday, May 7, 2019 Wednesday, May 8, 2019
Ketchikan Daily News	Ketchikan, Alaska	Notice of Availability/Notice of Public Meetings: Friday, March 29, 2019 Comment Period Extension Notice: Monday, May 6, 2019 Tuesday, May 7, 2019 Wednesday, May 8, 2019
Eureka Times-Standard	Eureka, California	Notice of Availability/Notice of Public Meetings: Friday, March 29, 2019 Comment Period Extension Notice: Sunday, April 28, 2019 Wednesday, May 1, 2019 Thursday, May 2, 2019
Fort Bragg Advocate-News	Fort Bragg, California	Notice of Availability/Notice of Public Meetings: Thursday, April 4, 2019 Thursday, April 11, 2019 Comment Period Extension Notice: Thursday, April 18, 2019 Thursday, April 25, 2019
The Daily Astorian	Astoria, Oregon	Notice of Availability/Notice of Public Meetings: Friday, March 29, 2019 Comment Period Extension Notice: Thursday, April 25, 2019 Friday, April 26, 2019 Monday, April 29, 2019

Newspaper	Newspaper Coverage	Publication Dates
Newport News-Times	Newport, Oregon	Notice of Availability/Notice of Public Meetings: Friday, March 29, 2019 Comment Period Extension Notice: Friday, April 19, 2019 Wednesday, April 24, 2019 Friday, April 26, 2019
The Oregonian	Portland, Oregon	Notice of Availability/Notice of Public Meetings: Friday, March 29, 2019 Comment Period Extension Notice: Friday, April 26, 2019 Saturday, April 27, 2019 Sunday, April 28, 2019
The Daily Herald	Everett, Washington	Notice of Availability/Notice of Public Meetings: Friday, March 29, 2019 Comment Period Extension Notice: Sunday, April 21, 2019 Tuesday, April 23, 2019 Wednesday, April 24, 2019
The Daily World	Aberdeen, Washington	Notice of Availability/Notice of Public Meetings: Saturday, March 30, 2019 Comment Period Extension Notice: Saturday, April 20, 2019 Tuesday, April 23, 2019 Thursday, April 25, 2019
Forks Forum	Forks, Washington	Notice of Availability/Notice of Public Meetings: Thursday, April 4, 2019 Thursday, April 11, 2019 Comment Period Extension Notice: Thursday, April 18, 2019 Thursday, April 25, 2019
Journal of the San Juan Islands	San Juan Island, Washington	Notice of Availability/Notice of Public Meetings: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 Wednesday, April 10, 2019 Comment Period Extension Notice: Wednesday, April 17, 2019 Wednesday, April 24, 2019
The Kitsap Sun	Kitsap, Washington	Notice of Availability/Notice of Public Meetings: Friday, March 29, 2019 Comment Period Extension Notice: Sunday, April 21, 2019 Wednesday, April 24, 2019 Thursday, April 25, 2019

Newspaper	Newspaper Coverage	Publication Dates
Peninsula Daily News	Port Angeles, Washington	Notice of Availability/Notice of Public Meetings: Friday, March 29, 2019 Comment Period Extension Notice: Sunday, April 21, 2019 Thursday, April 25, 2019 Friday, April 26, 2019
Port Townsend and Jefferson County Leader	Port Townsend, Washington	Notice of Availability/Notice of Public Meetings: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 Wednesday, April 10, 2019 Comment Period Extension Notice: Wednesday, April 17, 2019 Wednesday, April 24, 2019
The Seattle Times	Seattle, Washington	Notice of Availability/Notice of Public Meetings: Friday, March 29, 2019 Comment Period Extension Notice: Sunday, April 21, 2019 Tuesday, April 23, 2019 Wednesday, April 24, 2019
Sequim Gazette	Sequim, Washington	Notice of Availability/Notice of Public Meetings: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 Wednesday, April 10, 2019 Comment Period Extension Notice: Wednesday, April 17, 2019 Wednesday, April 24, 2019
Whidbey News-Times	Whidbey Island, Washington	Notice of Availability/Notice of Public Meetings: Saturday, March 30, 2019 Comment Period Extension Notice: Wednesday, April 17, 2019 Saturday, April 20, 2019 Wednesday, April 24, 2019



**The U.S. Navy
INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE
in the Northwest Training and Testing
Supplemental EIS/OEIS Public Involvement Process**

The U.S. Navy has prepared a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) to reassess the potential environmental impacts associated with conducting proposed ongoing and future training and testing activities within the Northwest Training and Testing (NWT) Study Area beyond 2020.

Public Involvement

The Navy welcomes substantive comments on the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS. Comments may be submitted at the public meetings, online at www.NWTTEIS.com, or by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering
Command Northwest
Attention: NWT Supplemental EIS/OEIS
Project Manager
3730 N. Charles Porter Ave., Building 385
Oak Harbor, WA 98278-3500

Comments must be postmarked or received online by May 28, 2019, for consideration in the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

Individuals requiring reasonable accommodations, please contact Julianne Stanford, Public Affairs Officer, at 360-396-1630 or julianne.stanford@navy.mil.

Open House Public Meetings: 5 to 8 p.m.

Arrive and submit comments anytime during the open house. No presentation or formal oral comment session will be conducted.


Wednesday, April 24, 2019
Hampton Inn Seattle/Everett Downtown
Salish Room
2931 W. Marine View Drive
Everett, Wash.

Thursday, April 25, 2019
Ridgetop Middle School Cafeteria
10600 Hillsboro Drive NW
Silverdale, Wash.

Friday, April 26, 2019
Naval Elks Lodge #353
131 E. First St.
Port Angeles, Wash.

The draft supplement is available online at www.NWTTEIS.com or at the following public libraries in Washington: Everett Main Library; Gig Harbor Library; Jefferson County Library, Port Hadlock; Kitsap Regional Library, Poulsbo; Kitsap Regional Library, Sylvan Way, Bremerton; North Olympic Library System, Forks Branch; Lopez Island Library; Oak Harbor Public Library; Port Angeles Main Library; Port Townsend Public Library; San Juan Island Library; Timberland Regional Library, Aberdeen; and Timberland Regional Library, Hoquiam. Additional public meetings will be held in Oregon, Northern California, and southeastern Alaska.

Figure 8.3-4: Newspaper Announcement of Draft Supplemental Availability and Public Meetings (Washington State Version)



**The U.S. Navy
INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE
in the Northwest Training and Testing Supplemental EIS/OEIS
Public Involvement Process**

This notice announces a 15-day extension of the public comment period.

The U.S. Navy has prepared a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) to reassess the potential environmental impacts associated with conducting proposed ongoing and future training and testing activities within the Northwest Training and Testing (NWT) Study Area beyond 2020.

Public Involvement

The Navy welcomes substantive comments on the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS. Comments may be submitted at the public meetings, online at www.NWTTEIS.com, or by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest
Attention: NWT Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
3730 N. Charles Porter Ave., Building 385
Oak Harbor, WA 98278-3500

Comment Period Extended: Comments must be postmarked or received online by June 12, 2019, for consideration in the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

Individuals requiring reasonable accommodations, please contact Julianne Stanford, Public Affairs Officer, at 360-396-1630 or julianne.stanford@navy.mil.

The draft supplement is available online at www.NWTTEIS.com or at the following public libraries in Washington: Everett Main Library; Gig Harbor Library; Jefferson County Library, Port Hadlock; Kitsap Regional Library, Poulsbo; Kitsap Regional Library, Sylvan Way, Bremerton; Lopez Island Library; North Olympic Library System, Forks Branch; Oak Harbor Public Library; Port Angeles Main Library; Port Townsend Public Library; San Juan Island Library; Timberland Regional Library, Aberdeen; and Timberland Regional Library, Hoquiam. Additional public meetings will be held in Oregon, Northern California, and southeastern Alaska.

**Open House Public Meetings:
5 to 8 p.m.**

Arrive and submit comments anytime during the open house. No presentation or formal oral comment session will be conducted.

Wednesday, April 24, 2019
Hampton Inn Seattle/Everett Downtown
Salish Room
2931 W. Marine View Drive
Everett, Wash.

Thursday, April 25, 2019
Ridgetop Middle School Cafeteria
10600 Hillsboro Drive NW
Silverdale, Wash.

Friday, April 26, 2019
Naval Elks Lodge #353
131 E. First St.
Port Angeles, Wash.

**Figure 8.3-5: Newspaper Announcement for Draft Supplemental Comment Period Extension
(Washington State Version)**

8.3.1.4 Press Releases and Public Service Announcements

Commander, Navy Region Northwest Public Affairs Office distributed a press release to local and regional media outlets (newspapers, television, and radio news stations), ListServes, environmental-related blogs, and congressional staffers March 29, 2019. The press release provided a description of the Proposed Action; project website address; duration of the comment period and commenting methods; information repositories; and location, dates, and times of the public meetings. The press release also provided information on the availability of the Navy to meet with the media in advance of the public meetings. A comment period extension press release was distributed to media outlets April 18, 2019. A third press release, which included the new comment period end date, was distributed to media outlets April 23, 2019. Examples of the press releases are shown in Figure 8.3-6, Figure 8.3-7, and Figure 8.3-8.

A public service announcement was distributed to local television and radio news stations in Washington April 23, 2019; in Oregon April 29, 2019; in Northern California May 2, 2019; and in southeastern Alaska May 6, 2019, to announce the public meeting dates, times, and locations. An example of the Washington State public service announcement is shown in Figure 8.3-9.



COMMANDER, NAVY REGION NORTHWEST

Public Affairs Office
1100 Hunley Road, Silverdale, WA 98315-1100
Phone: (360) 396-1630 Fax: (360) 396-7127

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Release #19-0329

March 29, 2019

NORTHWEST TRAINING AND TESTING DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/OVERSEAS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT; NAVY TO HOLD OPEN HOUSE PUBLIC MEETINGS

SILVERDALE, Wash — The U.S. Navy has prepared a draft supplement to the 2015 Northwest Training and Testing (NWTT) Final Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) to reassess the potential environmental impacts associated with conducting proposed ongoing and future military readiness activities within the NWTT Study Area, referred to as the "Study Area." Military readiness activities include training and research, development, testing, and evaluation activities, referred to as "training and testing." The Navy welcomes substantive public comments on the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

Proposed Action:

The Navy's Proposed Action is to conduct training and testing activities at sea and in associated airspace within the Study Area beyond 2020. These activities continue to include the use of active sound navigation and ranging, known as sonar, and explosives while employing marine species mitigation measures. Proposed activities are similar to those conducted in the Study Area for decades and analyzed in the 2015 document.

The purpose of the Proposed Action, which remains the same as the 2015 analysis, is to conduct training and testing activities to ensure the Navy can accomplish its mission to maintain, train, and equip combat-ready naval forces capable of winning wars, deterring aggression, and maintaining freedom of the seas, consistent with Congressional direction in section 8062 of Title 10 of the U.S. Code.

In the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, the Navy evaluated new, relevant information, such as more recent marine mammal density data and new scientific information, and updated the environmental analyses as appropriate. The Navy prepared the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS to support the issuance of federal regulatory permits and authorizations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act.

To achieve and maintain military readiness, the Navy proposes to:

- Conduct training and testing activities, at sea and in associated airspace, at levels required to support military readiness requirements beyond 2020.
- Accommodate evolving mission requirements, including those resulting from the development, testing, and introduction of new vessels, aircraft, and weapons systems into the fleet.

The Study Area remains unchanged since the 2015 NWTT Final EIS/OEIS. The Study Area is comprised of established maritime operating areas and warning areas in the northeastern Pacific

-more-

**Figure 8.3-6: Press Release of Notification of Availability of the Draft Supplemental
Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement**

NWTT SUPPLEMENTAL EIS/OEIS -2-

Ocean, including areas within the Strait of Juan de Fuca, Puget Sound, and the Western Behm Canal in southeastern Alaska. The Study Area includes air and water space within and outside Washington state waters and established special use airspace, Navy pierside and harbor locations within Washington state waters, and air and water space outside the state waters of Oregon and Northern California. In the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, the Navy analyzed only those training and testing activities conducted at sea and in associated airspace within the Study Area.

Visit the project website at www.NWTTEIS.com to download the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, view other project information, and submit substantive comments online.

Availability of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS and public comment period:

The Navy is seeking public review and comment on the Proposed Action and alternatives as well as the accuracy and adequacy of the environmental analysis. The Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS is available for public review online at www.NWTTEIS.com and at the following locations:

Washington:

- Everett Main Library
- Gig Harbor Library
- Jefferson County Library,
Port Hadlock
- Kitsap Regional Library, Poulsbo
- Kitsap Regional Library,
Sylvan Way, Bremerton
- North Olympic Library System,
Forks Branch
- Lopez Island Library
- Oak Harbor Public Library
- Port Angeles Main Library
- Port Townsend Public Library
- San Juan Island Library
- Timberland Regional Library,
Aberdeen
- Timberland Regional Library,
Hoquiam

Oregon:

- Astoria Public Library
- Driftwood Public Library
- Newport Public Library
- Oregon State University,
Guin Library Hatfield Marine
Science Center
- Tillamook Main Library

Northern California:

- Fort Bragg Branch Library
- Humboldt County Public Library,
Arcata Branch Library
- Humboldt County Public Library,
Eureka Main Library
- Redwood Coast Senior Center

Southeastern Alaska:

- Juneau Public Library, Downtown
Branch
- Ketchikan Public Library

The Navy will accept comments throughout the public comment period from **March 29, 2019**, to **May 28, 2019**. All comments must be postmarked or received online by **May 28, 2019**, for consideration in the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS. All comments submitted during the public comment period will become part of the public record, and substantive comments will be addressed in the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

Comments may be submitted online at www.NWTTEIS.com, at the public meetings, or by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest
Attention: NWTT Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
3730 N. Charles Porter Ave.
Building 385
Oak Harbor, WA 98278-3500

Figure 8.3-6: Press Release of Notification of Availability of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (continued)

NWTT SUPPLEMENTAL EIS/OEIS -2-

Open house public meetings:

The Navy will hold eight open house public meetings to provide information, answer questions, and give the public an opportunity to comment on the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS. The public may arrive at any time between **5 and 8 p.m.**, as there will not be a presentation or formal oral comment session. A stenographer will be available for the public to facilitate one-on-one oral comments; written comments can be submitted at any time during the meetings.

The open house public meetings will be held at the following locations:

Washington:

Wednesday, April 24, 2019

Hampton Inn Seattle/Everett
Downtown Salish Room
2931 W. Marine View Drive
Everett, Wash.

Thursday, April 25, 2019

Ridgetop Middle School Cafeteria
10600 Hillsboro Drive NW
Silverdale, Wash.

Friday, April 26, 2019

Naval Elks Lodge #353
131 E. First St.
Port Angeles, Wash.

Oregon:

Monday, April 29, 2019

Astoria High School Student
Commons
1001 W. Marine Drive
Astoria, Ore.

Tuesday, April 30, 2019

Newport Performing Arts Center
Lobby
777 W. Olive St.
Newport, Ore.

Northern California:

Thursday, May 2, 2019

Red Lion Hotel Eureka Ballroom
1929 Fourth St.
Eureka, Calif.

Friday, May 3, 2019

Dana Grey Elementary School
Multipurpose Room
1197 Chestnut St.
Fort Bragg, Calif.

Southeastern Alaska:

Wednesday, May 8, 2019

Ted Ferry Civic Center Naha and
Alava Bays
888 Venetia Ave.
Ketchikan, Alaska

Individuals requiring reasonable accommodations, please contact Ms. Julianne Stanford, Public Affairs Officer, at 360-396-1630 or julianne.stanford@navy.mil.

Media availability:

Media will have an opportunity to speak with key project personnel before each meeting at 4:30 p.m. Media interested in attending or seeking further information should contact Ms. Julianne Stanford, 360-396-1630 or julianne.stanford@navy.mil.

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Figure 8.3-6: Press Release of Notification of Availability of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (continued)



COMMANDER, NAVY REGION NORTHWEST

Public Affairs Office
1100 Hunley Road, Silverdale, WA 98315-1100
Phone: (360) 396-1630 Fax: (360) 396-7127

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Release #19-0418

April 18, 2019

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD EXTENDED FOR THE NORTHWEST TRAINING AND TESTING DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/OVERSEAS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

SILVERDALE, Wash — The U.S. Navy has extended the public comment period by an additional 15 days for the Northwest Training and Testing (NWTT) Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS). Public comments may now be submitted until **June 12, 2019**, for consideration in the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

In the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, the Navy evaluated new, relevant information, such as more recent marine species density data and new scientific information, and updated the environmental analyses as appropriate. The Navy prepared the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS to support the issuance of federal regulatory permits and authorizations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act. The Navy requests and welcomes substantive public comments on the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

Proposed Action:

The Navy's Proposed Action is to conduct training and testing activities at sea and in associated airspace within the Study Area beyond 2020. These activities continue to include the use of active sound navigation and ranging, known as sonar, and explosives while employing marine species mitigation measures. Proposed activities are similar to those conducted in the Study Area for decades and analyzed in the 2015 document.

The purpose of the Proposed Action, which remains the same as the 2015 analysis, is to conduct training and testing activities to ensure the Navy can accomplish its mission to maintain, train, and equip combat-ready naval forces capable of winning wars, deterring aggression, and maintaining freedom of the seas, consistent with Congressional direction in section 8062 of Title 10 of the U.S. Code.

To achieve and maintain military readiness, the Navy proposes to:

- Conduct training and testing activities, at sea and in associated airspace, at levels required to support military readiness requirements beyond 2020.
- Accommodate evolving mission requirements, including those resulting from the development, testing, and introduction of new vessels, aircraft, and weapons systems into the fleet.

The Study Area remains unchanged since the 2015 NWTT Final EIS/OEIS. The Study Area is comprised of established maritime operating areas and warning areas in the northeastern Pacific Ocean, including areas within the Strait of Juan de Fuca, Puget Sound, and the Western Behm Canal in southeastern Alaska. The Study Area includes air and water space within and outside Washington

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Figure 8.3-7: Press Release of Public Comment Period Extension for the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement

NWTT SUPPLEMENTAL EIS/OEIS -2-

state waters and established special use airspace, Navy pierside and harbor locations within Washington state waters, and air and water space outside the state waters of Oregon and Northern California. In the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, the Navy analyzed only those training and testing activities conducted at sea and in associated airspace within the Study Area.

Visit the project website at www.NWTEIS.com to download the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, view other project information, and submit substantive comments online.

Availability of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS and public comment period:

The Navy is seeking public review and comment on the Proposed Action and alternatives as well as the accuracy and adequacy of the environmental analysis. The Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS is available for public review online at www.NWTEIS.com and at the following locations:

Washington:

- Everett Main Library
- Gig Harbor Library
- Jefferson County Library, Port Hadlock
- Kitsap Regional Library, Poulsbo
- Kitsap Regional Library, Sylvan Way, Bremerton
- North Olympic Library System, Forks Branch
- Lopez Island Library
- Oak Harbor Public Library
- Port Angeles Main Library
- Port Townsend Public Library
- San Juan Island Library
- Timberland Regional Library, Aberdeen
- Timberland Regional Library, Hoquiam

Oregon:

- Astoria Public Library
- Driftwood Public Library
- Newport Public Library
- Oregon State University, Guin Library Hatfield Marine Science Center
- Tillamook Main Library

Northern California:

- Fort Bragg Branch Library
- Humboldt County Public Library, Arcata Branch Library
- Humboldt County Public Library, Eureka Main Library
- Redwood Coast Senior Center

Southeastern Alaska:

- Juneau Public Library, Downtown Branch
- Ketchikan Public Library

The Navy will accept comments throughout the public comment period from **March 29, 2019, to June 12, 2019**. All comments must be postmarked or received online by **June 12, 2019**, for consideration in the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS. All comments submitted during the public comment period will become part of the public record, and substantive comments will be addressed in the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

Comments may be submitted online at www.NWTEIS.com, at the public meetings, or by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest
Attention: NWTT Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
3730 N. Charles Porter Ave.
Building 385, Admin, Room 216
Oak Harbor, WA 98278-5000

Open house public meetings:

The Navy will hold eight open house public meetings to provide information, answer questions, and give the public an opportunity to comment on the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS. The public may arrive

Figure 8.3-7: Press Release of Public Comment Period Extension for the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (continued)

NWTT SUPPLEMENTAL EIS/OEIS -2-

at any time between **5 and 8 p.m.**, as there will not be a presentation or formal oral comment session. A stenographer will be available to transcribe one-on-one oral comments; written comments may be submitted at any time during the meetings.

The open house public meetings will be held at the following locations:

Washington:

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Silverdale, Wash.

Friday, April 26, 2019
Naval Elks Lodge #353
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Oregon:

Monday, April 29, 2019
Astoria High School Student
Commons
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Newport Performing Arts Center
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Thursday, May 2, 2019
Red Lion Hotel Eureka Ballroom
1929 Fourth St.
Eureka, Calif.

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Dana Grey Elementary School
Multipurpose Room
1197 Chestnut St.
Fort Bragg, Calif.

Southeastern Alaska:

Wednesday, May 8, 2019
Ted Ferry Civic Center Naha and
Alava Bays
888 Venetia Ave.
Ketchikan, Alaska

Individuals requiring reasonable accommodations, please contact Ms. Julianne Stanford, Public Affairs Officer, at 360-867-8525 or julianne.stanford@navy.mil.

Media availability:

Media will have an opportunity to speak with key project personnel before each meeting at 4:30 p.m. Media interested in attending or seeking further information should contact Ms. Julianne Stanford, 360-867-8525 or julianne.stanford@navy.mil.

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Figure 8.3-7: Press Release of Public Comment Period Extension for the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (continued)



COMMANDER, NAVY REGION NORTHWEST

Public Affairs Office
1100 Hunley Road, Silverdale, WA 98315-1100
Phone: (360) 396-1630 Fax: (360) 396-7127

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Release #19-0423

April 23, 2019

NAVY TO HOLD OPEN HOUSE PUBLIC MEETINGS FOR THE NORTHWEST TRAINING AND TESTING DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/OVERSEAS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

SILVERDALE, Wash — The U.S. Navy will hold eight open house public meetings to provide information, answer questions, and give the public an opportunity to comment on the 2015 Northwest Training and Testing (NWT) Final Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS). The Navy prepared the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS to reassess the potential environmental impacts associated with conducting proposed ongoing and future military readiness activities within the NWT Study Area, referred to as the "Study Area." Military readiness activities include training and research, development, testing, and evaluation activities, referred to as "training and testing." The Navy welcomes substantive public comments on the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

Proposed Action:

The Navy's Proposed Action is to conduct training and testing activities at sea and in associated airspace within the Study Area beyond 2020. These activities continue to include the use of active sound navigation and ranging, known as sonar, and explosives while employing marine species mitigation measures. Proposed activities are similar to those conducted in the Study Area for decades and analyzed in the 2015 document.

The purpose of the Proposed Action, which remains the same as the 2015 analysis, is to conduct training and testing activities to ensure the Navy can accomplish its mission to maintain, train, and equip combat-ready naval forces capable of winning wars, deterring aggression, and maintaining freedom of the seas, consistent with Congressional direction in section 8062 of Title 10 of the U.S. Code.

In the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, the Navy evaluated new, relevant information, such as more recent marine mammal density data and new scientific information, and updated the environmental analyses as appropriate. The Navy prepared the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS to support the issuance of federal regulatory permits and authorizations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act.

To achieve and maintain military readiness, the Navy proposes to:

- Conduct training and testing activities, at sea and in associated airspace, at levels required to support military readiness requirements beyond 2020.
- Accommodate evolving mission requirements, including those resulting from the development, testing, and introduction of new vessels, aircraft, and weapons systems into the fleet.

The Study Area remains unchanged since the 2015 NWT Final EIS/OEIS. The Study Area is comprised of established maritime operating areas and warning areas in the northeastern Pacific

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Figure 8.3-8: Press Release of Notification of Public Meetings for the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement

NWTT SUPPLEMENTAL EIS/OEIS -2-

Ocean, including areas within the Strait of Juan de Fuca, Puget Sound, and the Western Behm Canal in southeastern Alaska. The Study Area includes air and water space within and outside Washington state waters and established special use airspace, Navy pierside and harbor locations within Washington state waters, and air and water space outside the state waters of Oregon and Northern California. In the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, the Navy analyzed only those training and testing activities conducted at sea and in associated airspace within the Study Area.

Visit the project website at www.NWTEIS.com to download the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, view other project information, and submit substantive comments online.

Open house public meetings:

The Navy will hold eight open house public meetings to provide information, answer questions, and give the public an opportunity to comment on the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS. The public may arrive at any time between **5 and 8 p.m.**, as there will not be a presentation or formal oral comment session. A stenographer will be available for the public to facilitate one-on-one oral comments; written comments can be submitted at any time during the meetings.

The open house public meetings will be held at the following locations:

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Silverdale, Wash.

Friday, April 26, 2019
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Port Angeles, Wash.

Oregon:

Monday, April 29, 2019
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Commons
1001 W. Marine Drive
Astoria, Ore.

Tuesday, April 30, 2019

Newport Performing Arts Center
Lobby
777 W. Olive St.
Newport, Ore.

Northern California:

Thursday, May 2, 2019
Red Lion Hotel Eureka Ballroom
1929 Fourth St.
Eureka, Calif.

Friday, May 3, 2019
Dana Grey Elementary School
Multipurpose Room
1197 Chestnut St.
Fort Bragg, Calif.

Southeastern Alaska:

Wednesday, May 8, 2019
Ted Ferry Civic Center Naha and
Alava Bays
888 Venetia Ave.
Ketchikan, Alaska

Individuals requiring reasonable accommodations, please contact Ms. Julianne Stanford, Public Affairs Officer, at 360-867-8525 or julianne.stanford@navy.mil.

Media availability:

Media will have an opportunity to speak with key project personnel before each meeting at 4:30 p.m. Media interested in attending or seeking further information should contact Ms. Julianne Stanford, 360-867-8525 or julianne.stanford@navy.mil.

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Figure 8.3-8: Press Release of Notification of Public Meetings for the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (continued)

NWTT SUPPLEMENTAL EIS/OEIS -2-

Availability of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS and public comment period:

The Navy is seeking public review and comment on the Proposed Action and alternatives as well as the accuracy and adequacy of the environmental analysis. The Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS is available for public review online at www.NWTTEIS.com and at the following locations:

Washington:

- Everett Main Library
- Gig Harbor Library
- Jefferson County Library, Port Hadlock
- Kitsap Regional Library, Poulsbo
- Kitsap Regional Library, Sylvan Way, Bremerton
- North Olympic Library System, Forks Branch
- Lopez Island Library
- Oak Harbor Public Library
- Port Angeles Main Library
- Port Townsend Public Library
- San Juan Island Library
- Timberland Regional Library, Aberdeen
- Timberland Regional Library, Hoquiam

Oregon:

- Astoria Public Library
- Driftwood Public Library
- Newport Public Library
- Oregon State University, Guin Library Hatfield Marine Science Center
- Tillamook Main Library

Northern California:

- Fort Bragg Branch Library
- Humboldt County Public Library, Arcata Branch Library
- Humboldt County Public Library, Eureka Main Library
- Redwood Coast Senior Center

Southeastern Alaska:

- Juneau Public Library, Downtown Branch
- Ketchikan Public Library

The Navy will accept comments throughout the public comment period from **March 29, 2019**, to **June 12, 2019**. All comments must be postmarked or received online by **June 12, 2019**, for consideration in the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS. All comments submitted during the public comment period will become part of the public record, and substantive comments will be addressed in the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

Comments may be submitted online at www.NWTTEIS.com, at the public meetings, or by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest
Attention: NWTT Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
3730 N. Charles Porter Ave.
Building 385, Admin, Room 216
Oak Harbor, WA 98278-3500

-USN-

Figure 8.3-8: Press Release of Notification of Public Meetings for the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (continued)

Press Release

Commander, Navy Region Northwest
1100 Hunley Road, Silverdale, WA 98315-1100



Contact: Julianne Stanford
Navy Region Northwest Public Affairs Specialist
(T) 360-867-8525
julianne.stanford@navy.mil

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

April 23, 2019

Public Meetings for the Northwest Training and Testing Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement

(39 Seconds)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER:

THE U-S NAVY INVITES YOU TO ATTEND PUBLIC MEETINGS TO LEARN ABOUT AND COMMENT ON POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH CONDUCTING PROPOSED ONGOING AND FUTURE TRAINING AND TESTING ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE NORTHWEST TRAINING AND TESTING STUDY AREA.

THE OPEN HOUSE PUBLIC MEETINGS WILL BE HELD FROM FIVE TO EIGHT P-M ON:

APRIL TWENTY-FOURTH AT THE HAMPTON INN SALISH ROOM IN DOWNTOWN EVERETT,
APRIL TWENTY-FIFTH AT THE RIDGETOP MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA IN SILVERDALE,
AND APRIL TWENTY-SIXTH AT THE NAVAL ELKS LODGE NUMBER THREE-FIVE-THREE IN PORT ANGELES.

YOU CAN LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROJECT AND PROVIDE COMMENTS AT THE PUBLIC MEETINGS OR AT [W-W-W DOT N-W-T-T E-I-S DOT COM](http://W-W-W.DOT.N-W-T-T.E-I-S.DOT.COM).

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Figure 8.3-9: Public Service Announcement of Public Meetings (Washington State Version)

8.3.1.5 Subscriber Email Notifications

Project information was also distributed via the project website subscriber's email distribution list. Website subscribers from the scoping phase were carried forward into the Draft Supplemental phase to start with an initial 195 website subscribers. An email notification was sent to these 195 website subscribers March 29, 2019. The email informed the subscribers of the availability of the Draft Supplemental; the public meeting dates, times, and locations; and ways to submit comments. A second email notification announcing the public comment period extension was sent to 200 website subscribers April 19, 2019. As of August 2020, there are 247 subscribers.

8.3.2 Public Meetings

The Navy held eight open house public meetings to inform the public about the Proposed Action and environmental analysis, and to solicit public comments on the Draft Supplemental. The public meetings included informational poster and video stations staffed by Navy representatives. A stenographer was available to transcribe one-on-one oral comments; written comments were submitted at any time during the meetings. Members of the public could arrive at any time during the public meetings, which were held from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. In total, 340 people attended the eight public meetings. The public meeting locations and dates are shown in Table 8.3-3.

Table 8.3-3: Public Meeting Locations

Area Location	Meeting Venue	Date
Everett, Washington	Hampton Inn Seattle/Everett Downtown Salish Room	Wednesday, April 24, 2019
Silverdale, Washington	Ridgetop Middle School Cafeteria	Thursday, April 25, 2019
Port Angeles, Washington	Naval Elks Lodge #353	Friday, April 26, 2019
Astoria, Oregon	Astoria High School Student Commons	Monday, April 29, 2019
Newport, Oregon	Newport Performing Arts Center Lobby	Tuesday, April 30, 2019
Eureka, California	Red Lion Hotel Eureka Ballroom	Thursday, May 2, 2019
Fort Bragg, California	Dana Grey Elementary School Multipurpose Room	Friday, May 3, 2019
Ketchikan, Alaska	Ted Ferry Civic Center Naha and Alava Bays	Wednesday, May 8, 2019

8.4 Comments on the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement

Throughout the public comment period, a total of 2,062 unique comments were received. Public comments on the Draft Supplemental were submitted in three ways:

- Written letters (received any time during the public comment period) (72 comments).
- Comments submitted at a public meeting (written or oral) (written: 46 comments; oral: 30 comments).

- Comments submitted directly on the project website (received any time during the public comment period) (1,904 comments).

Additionally, 10 comments were received via email. Form letters (with 31,949 signatures) were also received from various nongovernmental organizations.

Comments on the Draft Supplemental were received from 2 state elected officials, 11 local elected officials, 3 federal agencies, 6 state government agencies, 31 nongovernmental organizations, 10 Native American tribes, 1 community/business group, 1 media group (newspaper), 6 private companies, 1 research/university, and approximately 1,911 private individuals. All public comments can be accessed on the project website at www.NWTTEIS.com.

Each comment was reviewed and categorized into specific resource areas or topics. One comment may include comments on multiple resource areas or topics. Appendix H (Public Comments and Responses) contains the comments received on the Draft Supplemental and the Navy's responses.

8.5 Distribution of the Draft and Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement

All of the parties notified of the availability of the Draft and Final Supplemental were directed to view the document electronically on the project website (www.NWTTEIS.com), or to access printed and CD/DVD copies available at the information repositories discussed in Section 8.5.2 (Information Repositories). Chairpersons of federally recognized tribes received a CD/DVD copy of the Draft and Final Supplemental.

8.5.1 Federal Agencies

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency received a printed copy and electronic version (CD/DVD) of the Draft and Final Supplemental. Regional offices of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency received electronic versions of the Draft and Final Supplemental. The National Marine Fisheries Service headquarters office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service office, and U.S. Coast Guard office received printed and electronic copies of the Draft and Final Supplemental.

8.5.2 Information Repositories

The Draft and Final Supplemental were mailed in printed copy form, along with a CD/DVD to the information repository locations shown in Table 8.5-1: Information Repositories.

Table 8.5-1: Information Repositories

Repository Name	Physical Address
Everett Main Library	2702 Hoyt Ave., Everett, WA 98201
Gig Harbor Library	4424 Point Fosdick Drive NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98335
Jefferson County Library, Port Hadlock	620 Cedar Ave., Port Hadlock, WA 98339
Kitsap Regional Library, Poulsbo	700 NE Lincoln Road, Poulsbo, WA 98370
Kitsap Regional Library, Sylvan Way, Bremerton	1301 Sylvan Way, Bremerton, WA 98310
North Olympic Library System, Forks Branch	171 S. Forks Ave., Forks, WA 98331

Repository Name	Physical Address
Lopez Island Library	2225 Fisherman Bay Road, Lopez Island, WA 98261
Oak Harbor Public Library	1000 SE Regatta Drive, Oak Harbor, WA 98277
Port Angeles Main Library	2210 S. Peabody St., Port Angeles, WA 98362
Port Townsend Public Library	1220 Lawrence St., Port Townsend, WA 98368
San Juan Island Library	1010 Guard St., Friday Harbor, WA 98250
Timberland Regional Library, Aberdeen	121 E. Market St., Aberdeen, WA 98520
Timberland Regional Library, Hoquiam	420 Seventh St., Hoquiam, WA 98550
Astoria Public Library	450 10th St., Astoria, OR 97103
Driftwood Public Library	801 SW Highway 101 #201, Lincoln City, OR 97367
Newport Public Library	35 NW Nye St., Newport, OR 97365
Oregon State University, Guin Library Hatfield Marine Science Center	2030 SE Marine Science Drive, Newport, OR 97365
Tillamook Main Library	1716 Third St., Tillamook, OR 97141
Fort Bragg Branch Library	499 Laurel St., Fort Bragg, CA 95437
Humboldt County Public Library, Arcata Branch Library	500 Seventh St., Arcata, CA 95521
Humboldt County Public Library, Eureka Main Library	1313 Third St., Eureka, CA 95501
Redwood Coast Senior Center	490 N. Harold St., Fort Bragg, CA 95437
Juneau Public Library, Downtown Branch	292 Marine Way, Juneau, AK 99801
Ketchikan Public Library	1110 Copper Ridge Lane, Ketchikan, AK 99901

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