



MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
ONLINE AGENDA SUMMARY

BOARD AGENDA # 4(d)

- Arrangements for public hearings and timed presentations must be made with the Clerk of the Board in advance of public/media noticing
- Agenda Summaries must be submitted no later than *noon* Monday, 15 days prior to the meeting date (along with electronic submittals)
- Send 1 complete original single-sided set and 1 photocopy set – Items must be signed-off by appropriate departments and/or Co. Co.
Note: If individual supporting document(s) exceed 25 pages each, or are not easily duplicated, please provide 7 hard-copy sets)
- Transmittal of electronic Agenda Summaries, records, and supporting documentation must be emailed to: bosagenda@co.mendocino.ca.us
- Electronic Transmission Checklist: Agenda Summary Records Supp. Doc. If applicable, list other online information below
- Executed records will be returned to the department within one week. *Arrangements for expedited processing must be made in advance*

TO: Board of Supervisors **DATE:** March 19, 2014

FROM: Supervisor Dan Gjerde **MEETING DATE:** March 25, 2014

DEPARTMENT RESOURCE/CONTACT: Brandon Merritt **PHONE:** 463-4441 Present On Call

Consent Agenda Regular Agenda Noticed Public Hearing Time Allocated for Item: N/A

■ AGENDA TITLE: Approval of Letter to Congressman Jared Huffman Regarding Testing at the Navy Northwest Training and Testing Range Complex (NWTT)

■ PREVIOUS BOARD/BOARD COMMITTEE ACTIONS: On April 7, 2009, the Board of Supervisors sent a Letter of Opposition to Preferred Alternative No. 2 for the Navy’s Northwest Training and Testing Range Complex (NWTT). This letter was sent to the Naval Facilities Engineering Command NW, the Congressional Delegations of Coastal California, Oregon and Washington, Coastal Counties of Northern California, Oregon and Washington and the National Marine Fisheries Service. The letter pointed out potentially harmful effects on the environmental, economic and public health of Mendocino County residents from testing at the Range. On October 8, 2010, the Board of Supervisors sent a Letter of Opposition to the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (OEIS) with reference to the NWTRC. The letter identified the lack of protection afforded marine mammals, fish and fisheries. The letter also requested clarification of the effects of sonar, aerial bombardment and undersea detonations on ocean health and pointed to the apparent discrepancy between the State of California’s Marine Life Protection Act and the U.S. Navy’s continued use of the sea for military testing and training activities. On April 24, 2012, Supervisors McCowen and Hamburg sought authorization from the full Board to compile and submit scoping comments to the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, NW, Ms. Kimberly Kler, Project Manager, by the deadline of April 27, 2012, with copies to state and federal legislators. These comments were to include, but not be limited to, concerns expressed in previous Board correspondence (e.g., effects of weapons testing on marine mammals, fish and fisheries, recognition of biological “hot spots”, avoidance of areas identified by Tribes as having cultural significance, cumulative impacts, etc.).

■ SUMMARY OF REQUEST: The Board of Supervisors is being asked to approve a letter to Congressman Jared Huffman stating its opposition to U.S. Navy testing within 50 miles of the Mendocino County coastline. On the Navy Northwest Training and Testing Range Complex (NWTT) map, the U.S. Navy has drawn a 12-mile buffer line from the County’s coastline where testing and training will be “limited.” The letter states that this 12-mile buffer line should be extended to a 50-mile buffer zone. The letter further requests that Congressman Huffman petition the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to reopen the public comment period that ended on February 28, 2014 and extend for an additional 60 days. This period was to allow for official public feedback on testing in the Navy Northwest Training and Testing Range Complex (NWTT). According to the letter, the Board of Supervisors and residents in Mendocino County were not given sufficient advance notice to review the NWTT Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (OEIS) and to leave their commentary. Finally, the letter requests that Congressman Huffman petition the U.S. Navy to extend the public commentary period for the NWTT Draft EIS/OEIS, which ends on March 25, 2014, for an additional 60 days.

BOARD ACTION (DATE: _____): Approved Referred to _____ Other _____

RECORDS EXECUTED: Agreement: _____ Resolution: _____ Ordinance: _____ Other _____



- SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE AT: N/A
- ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON FILE WITH THE CLERK OF THE BOARD (CHECKED BY COB IF APPLICABLE):

FISCAL IMPACT:			
Source of Funding	Current F/Y Cost	Annual Recurring Cost	Budgeted in Current F/Y
N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

■ SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT: 1 2 3 4 5 All ■ VOTE REQUIREMENT: Majority 4/5ths

■ **RECOMMENDED ACTION/MOTION:** Approve the letter to Congressman Jared Huffman regarding testing at the Navy Northwest Training and Testing Range Complex (NWTT), authorizing the Chair to sign same.

■ **ALTERNATIVES:** Do not approve sending the letter dated March 25, 2014, to Congressman Jared Huffman regarding testing at the Navy Northwest Training and Testing Range Complex (NWTT)

■ **CEO REVIEW (NAME):** Brandon Merritt, Admin. Analyst II **PHONE:** 463-4441

RECOMMENDATION: Agree Disagree No Opinion Alternate Staff Report Attached

BOARD ACTION
 Approved _____
 Records Executed _____

Date of Meeting _____
 Referred to _____
 Other _____