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## [Arcata to oppose Navy coastal activity](#)



The [City of Arcata](#) voted Wednesday to circulate a “strongly worded letter” opposing naval weapons testing and whale-killing sonar activities along the California coast.

The city will seek support from state and local jurisdictions, coastal counties in California, Oregon and Washington, and reach out to non-profits. The letter will call for congressional hearings on the matter and seek legal options.

Public speakers and Council agreed the US Navy pushed an Environmental Impact Report with secrecy and haste, causing confusion as to deadlines for public comment. Attendees urged the council to send the strongest message possible opposing these naval activities.

Former Arcata City Councilman Dave Meserve said the navy acting out of “continued cold war paranoia.” He said sonar blasts reach 200 decibels that drive whales crazy or kill them.

Speakers noted recent consensus on the Marine Life Protection Act by local tribes, fishing communities and environmentalists, but say the Navy is exempt from such restrictions.

For its part, the Navy says it’s all no big deal because they will only be [harassing marine life rather than killing and maiming](#), as reported in the *Journal*.

**On a technical note**, Arcata is light years ahead of the City of Eureka and the County of Humboldt when it comes to ease of access to city meetings. The Granicus system includes crystal clear audio — unlike the skull-shattering buzz offered by the county and its lead city. The agenda is clearly posted along side a live video feed for online viewers, and screen titles note which agenda item is currently under discussion.


The awesomeness of Arcata’s transmission system includes music and nature-based images to soothe the civic minds of meeting-watchers during bio breaks. Anyone who has suffered through remote

viewings of Eureka City Council or Humboldt County Board of Supervisors meetings know the pain of that particular sonar blast and are crazy and harassed by it. No reports of actual maiming.

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### 33 Responses to *Arcata to oppose Navy coastal activity*

1.  *AMEN!* says:  
[November 18, 2010 at 6:03 am](#)


On the technical note anyway. Same goes with the city websites. At the Arcata site the meetings, videos and agendas are all organized and you can just click to view. here are the instructions from the county website to view a document:

- 1) Select the meeting date from the list on the left.
- 2) Click on the link of the agenda item for which you want to view the supporting documentation for.  
Note: Not all agenda items have supporting documents associated with them.
- 3) In the Documents frame, click on the document you wish to view.
- 4) In the Pages frame, click the links to the TIF, WORD, or PDF files to download and view the individual documents.


Announcement:

We have added Streaming of the meetings. Look for the links in the Streaming section.

Sadly, this is typical of how the county operates many aspects of their organization – clumsy, redundant, and inefficient.

2.  *06em* says:  
[November 18, 2010 at 6:38 am](#)

The sheriff office is also sadly lacking in their online “presence”, especially when compared to our neighbor county of Mendocino. Why can’t Humboldt have a [daily booking log](#) like Mendo? Why do we have to get that public information a week late and sometimes incomplete or not at all?

3.  *"HENCHMAN OF JUSTICE"* says:  
[November 18, 2010 at 7:19 am](#)

06em,

Humboldt, in ALL categories of governance, have been proprietors of isolation and misinformation for political gains SINCE that is how a little teeny weenie area can keep political policy (or lack thereof) secrets, secret! Afterall, how does a **Power Elitist Politician Dualopoly Group Participant** keep those they employ happy who, might I add, make up a huge portion of the voting base? It is like educators and school bond measures – who stands to gain regardless? It is not the children as these various School Board members claim unless they are guaranteeing CAREERS IN PERPETUITY!

Jeffrey Lytle  
McKinleyville – 5th District



4. *Percival Ne'er-do-well Esquire III* says:

[November 18, 2010 at 7:27 am](#)

Whales are pretty intelligent, maybe they will put two and two together and make it interesting for the small boat fishermen that get to mingle with them on their migration past Eureka. With the recently elected crew in place I wouldn't be surprised to see lots of "technical difficulties" in store for any public documentation of what will transpire at the meetings. The wingnuts that attend the meetings won't have to attend now that their interests are being looked after by the wingnuts that were elected.



5. *"HENCHMAN OF JUSTICE"* says:

[November 18, 2010 at 7:27 am](#)

As far as war games – hear the news of the Navy/Air Force **NEWEST VERSION FIGHTER JET** going down up in Alaska just off the coast?

So, was there an EIR? Let me guess a question, "the Feds got special exceptions and exemptions compared to Californians?"

So, how do communities get abused when the feds roll in for *a disaster gone really, really bad* because of these WAR GAMES? This is the feds subverting of the U.S. Constitution to create chaos and fear to take more power and control over the citizens in order to further the **"POLICE STATE AGENDA"**.

It is not as if something is up to no good!

JL



6. *High Finance* says:

[November 18, 2010 at 8:24 am](#)

By all means, stop the navy bombing exercise.

Who cares about national security when some fishies might be killed or harrassed?



7. *Anonymous* says:

[November 18, 2010 at 8:26 am](#)

Can I have some of what you're smoking Jeff? It definitely beats what I've got.



8. *Jack Z* says:

[November 18, 2010 at 8:36 am](#)

If any foreign aggression is detected upon our local beaches, I'm not calling 9-1-1 or the feds, I'm reporting directly to Dave.



9. *tra* says:

[November 18, 2010 at 8:42 am](#)

FYI, whales aren't "fishies."



10. *Lizard* says:

[November 18, 2010 at 9:14 am](#)

Oh give me a break. We are exercising the armed forces to death all over the world against under funded and obviously better organized opponents, that one appears to be working out to our advantage. Perhaps we can take lessons and a study from that. I do not think that we need a better weapon to protect us from, uh, uhm, who? Oh yeah, according to the people in charge, there are no more conventional enemies. I guess everyone forgot about that little fact. Just file this brainchild away with the bailout, Iraq, and all of the other necessary gazillionbillionkajillion dollar programs we NEED to fund.

Thanks,  
Liz



11. *moviedad* says:

[November 18, 2010 at 9:40 am](#)

I'm fifty miles inland, and I'm wondering about what is causing the dogs to howl and act like they're in pain. It used to only happen with their was a siren. But I've not been able to find a cause in the last few weeks. Before, it would happen once in blue moon. now it's every night, almost. and it lasts a long time.

Is it possible? All I know is something is happening at a high frequency.



12. *Anonymous* says:

[November 18, 2010 at 9:59 am](#)

It's obvious the Navy is making your dogs howl. Could be there's bitch in heat in your neighborhood too. Nahhh- it's the Navy. Seriously- 200 decibels is about what those idiots on the Harleys generate when they accelerate for sound effect.



13. *Neptune* says:

[November 18, 2010 at 10:20 am](#)

The jokes on you, progressive nannies. The whales are laughing at the ridiculous conditioned response of the “wussy-humans”. They confabbed and planned. The whales pretended to be in “pain” caused by the evil US Navy. Then they sit back and watch as the nannies work themselves into a lather as the appointed protectors of the whales. The whales enjoy swimming with the subs. Throw Comrades Meserve or Brinton into the bay and let the whales have their way with them.



14. *random guy* says:

[November 18, 2010 at 10:34 am](#)

movie dad! I'm not joking, I've seriously been wondering what's up with the animals lately myself. The birds seem irritated, crows are hiding? Not in typical winter ways either. The dogs around here were going crazy yesterday especially, no kidding. I'm about a mile from the coast.



15. *TM King* says:

[November 18, 2010 at 10:46 am](#)

'High Finance' certainly sounds like the sort of fear and paranoia and nature hating loser this country seems all too full of.  
Sad.



16. *E. Percival Ne'er-do-well Esquire III* says:

[November 18, 2010 at 12:12 pm](#)

Neptune, you can do better than that. Do you hate whales because you are fat and stupid and nasty people called you one? Try not to relate to them in that way, they have been around a lot longer than us and are probably a lot smarter. Then again you might not agree since that was based on evolution not creationism.



17. *SNaFU* says:

[November 18, 2010 at 12:16 pm](#)

The truth is the Navy is out there hunting for a gay whale that attacked one of their subs & sucked all the seaman out!



18. *Anonymous* says:

[November 18, 2010 at 12:42 pm](#)


Oh boy- we're on a roll now! Best thread in a while!



19. *Anonymous* says:


[November 18, 2010 at 12:53 pm](#)

Would have been better if this was done during the comment period.


20.  *Farmer* says:  
[November 18, 2010 at 1:24 pm](#)

Destroy land animals on private property in the name of the economy and you hardly heard a word. Destroy whales in open ocean with no apparent profit for locals and you get some outcry. If the Navy were Green Diamond, they would claim to be making more room for new whales and, since global decline in sea life is the trend, they bear no responsibility for population losses following bombing.

It's great that the Arcata city council is voicing opposition to the war games in the, let's not neglect Terra Firma.

21.  *Farmer* says:  
[November 18, 2010 at 1:25 pm](#)

meant to type- ... war games in the ocean,


22.  *"HENCHMAN OF JUSTICE"* says:  
[November 18, 2010 at 1:51 pm](#)

Farmer,


jokingly as you made a good comment,

“you know you need clean water, especially when the planet was full of it. Now, we filter. I suppose a corporate conglomerate with military preferences will invent a new purification system for water users.... afterall, this is a water world – the key to this planet, not dehydrated surface dirt.”

JL

23.  *High Finance* says:  
[November 18, 2010 at 3:00 pm](#)

The jokes here are appropriate because this entire subject is one big joke.

24.  *tra* says:  
[November 18, 2010 at 3:11 pm](#)

I don't think there's anything funny about whales and other marine life being harmed or killed by sonar and weapons testing.

The only thing that struck me as somewhat humorous, in a “gallows humor” sense, was the reference to the “strongly worded letter.” Yeah, that's got the Navy quaking in their boots, I'm sure.



25. *Not A Native* says:

[November 18, 2010 at 3:46 pm](#)

As an Arcata resident, I feel the city council has represented my views on this difficult problem. I support local politicians who ask tough questions and get facts whenever the government engages in local environmentally damaging activities.

And I really resent treating the ocean as an unlimited dumping ground where whatever happens out of sight underwater isn't a concern. Military training is absolutely essential. But these particular exercises may well do more harm than the benefits justify.



26. *anonymous* says:

[November 18, 2010 at 4:40 pm](#)

The Eureka city council accepts a half-assed explanation that the comment period is over to do nothing. It's getting more embarrassing every day to live here.

Thank you Arcata city council for being willing to protect our natural resources. Dave Meserve is right. Exercises of this type are from the past. The next war will not be fought with these weapons.



27. *huufc* says:

[November 18, 2010 at 5:00 pm](#)

We have an 1.4 trillion dollar deficit this year, and a 14 trillion dollar debt at the federal level. We have a 6 or 19 or 26 billion dollar deficit in California (depending on who you talk). And we are worried about this crap, please.



28. *armchair watcher* says:

[November 18, 2010 at 6:24 pm](#)

High Finance, huufc and their ilk are disgusting examples of the human species. They kneel at the alter of the almighty \$\$\$\$\$. These two put their ignorance, greed and stupidity out there for all to see. Way to go assholes!



29. *"HENCHMAN OF JUSTICE"* says:

[November 18, 2010 at 8:32 pm](#)

huufc (acronym =?)

ANYhow, the military budget eats half of our income taxes paid into the system. Every little bit causes the monetary pains you mention. Fracking munitions and who knows what else is not in the best interest of the planet's food chain; nor, it is good water quality practice. War is the last resort. To prepare for war, keeping up on technology, innovation, nationalism, etc... is where the focus should be, not inventing war games to waste resources that pollute the ocean, the air, the marine life, etc...it makes NO SENSE but for profiteering pyramid schemers – actually quite simple to relise, but sad as well.

Besides, immigration is the real threat in so far as destabilizing this country from within. From the outside, 2 great oceans separate the rest of the world from the North America. Mexico is our concern at the moment on this continent while Canada's borders are still on red alert as we should be. I understand people want to kill other people, but the U.S. Military provokes much of it alongside the foreign policy makers and hackers who launder for the pyramid schemers.

JL



30. *huufc* says:  
[November 18, 2010 at 8:45 pm](#)

ouch!



31. *High Finance* says:  
[November 18, 2010 at 9:04 pm](#)

Once again, more nasty nonsense from Armchair Watcher.

And perhaps Admiral Not a Native could give us his military background that allows him to opine that the naval exercises were without military benefit?



32. *The Challenger* says:  
[November 18, 2010 at 9:35 pm](#)

I think that it doesn't make one bit of difference — except for “feel-good” points perhaps — what the City of Arcata or the County of Humboldt decides about the Naval Test Range extension. In the current political climate, “national security”, no matter how chimerical, will trump any other concerns. It's a done deal. Only congressional intervention might stop it, and that's not going to happen with the Republican majority in the House.



33. *Anonymous* says:  
[November 18, 2010 at 10:01 pm](#)

Wouldn't it been more effective to make this statement before the comment period was over?

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