Why is the Navy conducting an Environmental Impact Statement?

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 requires federal agencies to examine the individual and cumulative, or additive environmental effects of their activities. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is a detailed public document that provides an assessment of the potential effects a Federal action might have on the human, natural, or cultural environment. An Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (OEIS) is prepared to comply with Executive Order 12114, Environmental Effects Abroad of Major Federal Actions, signed by President Carter in 1979. This order requires Federal agencies to consider the effects of actions that may affect the environment outside U.S. territorial waters.

How can the community get involved?

In September 2007, the Navy held five scoping meetings in Washington, Oregon, and northern California, to inform the public of the Proposed Action and to solicit public comment. Government agencies, organizations, and the public were encouraged to submit comments at the scoping meetings or to provide written comments throughout the public comment period. The scoping comment period ended on September 29, 2007. The Navy has carefully considered each of the comments received and addressed them in the Draft EIS/OEIS. A summary of these comments may be viewed here.

The U.S. Navy encourages the public to comment via this website or attend an open house and public hearing to learn about and provide comments on the Draft EIS/OEIS for the Northwest Training Range Complex.

Five public hearings were held to inform the public about the Navy’s Proposed Action and to obtain written and oral comments on the Draft EIS/OEIS for consideration in the final document. All public hearings included an open-house information session beginning at 5:00 p.m. and a public hearing beginning at 7:00 p.m. Public hearings were held on the following dates and locations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2009</td>
<td>ASC Board Room, 350 S. Oak Harbor Street, Oak Harbor, WA 98277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, Jan. 28, 2009</td>
<td>Pacific Beach Fire Hall, 4586 State Route 109, Pacific Beach, WA 98571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, Jan. 29, 2009</td>
<td>Grays Harbor College Cafeteria, 1620 Edward P. Smith Drive, Aberdeen, WA 98520</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How do I Comment on the Draft EIS/OEIS?

The Draft EIS/OEIS is available for public review on this web site (see “Documents” page) and in designated public libraries listed below. You may also attend one of the scheduled public meetings and submit your comments there.

Oak Harbor Public Library  
1000 SE Regatta Drive  
Oak Harbor, WA

Port Townsend Public Library  
1220 Lawrence Street  
Port Townsend, WA

Jefferson County Rural Library  
620 Cedar Avenue  
Port Hadlock, WA

Kitsap Regional Library  
1301 Sylvan Way  
Bremerton, WA

Timberland Regional Library  
420 7th Street  
Hoquiam, WA

Lincoln City Public Library  
801 SW Highway  
101 Lincoln City, OR

Humboldt County Library  
1313 3rd Street  
Eureka, CA

Submitting Comments

Comments will be accepted until February 18, 2009

Comments may be submitted electronically using the form provided on this (Web site).

To submit your comments by mail, please use the following comment form.