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OREGON NEWS

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“Oregon Senators Question Navy Training - Pacific Coast”

by The Associated Press

Thursday April 09, 2009, 2:39 PM

U.S. Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley, of Oregon, have sent a letter to the secretary of the Navy about concerns over the potential environmental and economic impact of expanded training off the Pacific coast.

The two Oregon Democrats said in their letter to Secretary B.J. Penn that the training may pose substantial risks.

The expanded warfare training proposal includes underwater minefield testing, explosive ordnance use, expanded land and air-based exercises and widespread sonar use.

The senators cited four specific concerns: irreparable harm to fisheries, sonar impact on marine mammals, possible threats to endangered species and the potential release of hazardous materials into sensitive marine ecosystems.

Public Comment Deadlines:

<http://www.nwtrangecomplexeis.com/Documents.aspx> United States Navy Environment Impact Statement

<http://www.nwtrangecomplexeis.com/NtrcCommentForm.aspx> U.S. Navy Public Comment Form Online

Write to: Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest, 1101 Tautog Circle,
Suite 203 Silverdale, Washington 98315 **ATTN: Mrs. Kimberly Kier – NWTRC**
EIS Deadline: April 13, 2009

NOAA Public Comments Address to: Michael Payne, Chief, Permits Conservation and
Education Division, Office of Protected Resources National Marine Fisheries
Service
1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910–3225. **Deadline: April 10, 2009**

AP News - The Associated Press