



COMMANDER, NAVY REGION NORTHWEST

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Release #

September 10, 2010

NORTHWEST TRAINING RANGE COMPLEX FINAL EIS/OEIS NOW AVAILABLE

SILVERDALE, Wash. — The U.S. Navy has completed the Final Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) for the Northwest Training Range Complex, a military training area that has been in use since World War II.

The completion of this Final EIS/OEIS follows several years of research, analysis and public involvement, including five public scoping meetings and six public hearings.

Two alternatives and a no action alternative were evaluated. The action alternatives would support current, emerging and future training activities in the Northwest Training Range Complex as necessary to achieve and sustain military readiness.

The Final EIS/OEIS evaluates the potential environmental effects of ongoing and proposed activities within the Navy's existing Northwest Training Range Complex and contains analyses of research, development, test and evaluation of new technologies; training activities; force structure changes and introduction of new weapons systems; and range enhancements.

The following resource areas are included in the report: geology and soils, air quality, hazardous materials, water resources, acoustic environment, marine plants and invertebrates, fish, sea turtles, marine mammals, birds, terrestrial biological resources, cultural resources, traffic, socioeconomics, environmental justice and protection of children, and public safety.

In compliance with Council on Environmental Quality regulations, public hearings were held in association with the Draft EIS/OEIS. Public hearings are not required for the Final EIS/OEIS. The Final EIS/OEIS includes written and oral comments received during the public review period for the Draft EIS/OEIS and responses to those comments.

Regulations provide for a 30-day wait period after the Final EIS/OEIS is published before the agency may take final action. During that period, in addition to the agency's own internal final review, the public and other agencies can comment on the Final EIS/OEIS prior to the agency's final action on the proposal.

Comments on the Final EIS/OEIS must be postmarked or received by **October 12, 2010**.

NORTHWEST TRAINING RANGE COMPLEX 2-2-2

Interested parties may submit comments via the project website at www.NWTRangeComplexEIS.com or by U.S. mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest
1101 Tautog Circle, Suite 203
Silverdale, WA 98315-1101
Attn: Mrs. Kimberly Kler – NWTRC EIS

The Final EIS/OEIS has been made available to individuals, agencies and organizations that requested a copy of the final document and/or provided comments during the public review period for the Draft EIS/OEIS. A copy of the Final EIS/OEIS is available at: www.NWTRangeComplexEIS.com or can be viewed at one of the following information repositories:

Oak Harbor Public Library
1000 SE Regatta Dr.
Oak Harbor, WA 98277

Kitsap Regional Library
1301 Sylvan Way
Bremerton, WA 98310

Port Townsend Public Library
1220 Lawrence St.
Port Townsend, WA 98368

Timberland Regional Library
420 7th St.
Hoquiam, WA 98550

Jefferson County Rural Library
620 Cedar Ave.
Port Hadlock, WA 98339

Lincoln City Public Library
801 SW Highway 101
Lincoln City, OR 97367

Humboldt County Library
1313 3rd St.
Eureka, CA 95501

Visit the project website at www.NWTRangeComplexEIS.com for more information and complete documentation on the EIS/OEIS process related to this project.

For information on the Navy and other ongoing EIS projects in the Northwest region, please visit Navy Region Northwest at www.cniv.navy.mil/cnrnw or contact Mrs. Sheila Murray, Environmental Public Affairs Officer, at 360-396-4981.