

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

NAVAL BASE  
KITSAP BANGOR

## TRIDENT SUPPORT FACILITIES EXPLOSIVES HANDLING WHARF

WELCOME CONTACTS ADDITIONAL INFO **FAQS****Frequently Asked Questions****1. What are the conclusions of the EIS?**

The recently published Record of Decision (ROD) for the EHW-2 project included the following conclusions:

- The Navy has selected the preferred alternative, Alternative 1, Combined Trestle, Large Pile Wharf, for implementation.
- Alternative 1 will fully meet the Navy's purpose and need to support future *Trident* program requirements at NBK at Bangor.
- The Navy's decision carefully weighed the purpose and need for the proposed action, environmental impacts, and input from federal, state and local agencies, American Indian Tribes, non-governmental organizations, and members of the public.
- The unavoidable environmental impacts of the proposed action will be mitigated by compensatory and tribal mitigation measures.

**2. Where can I view copies of the Final EIS?**

The Final EIS is now available and can be viewed on the [Welcome page](#) and at the following libraries:

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

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

Poulsbo Library  
700 NE Lincoln Rd.  
Poulsbo, WA 98370

Silverdale Library  
3450 NW Carlton St.  
Silverdale, WA 98383

Sylvan Way Library  
1301 Sylvan Way  
Bremerton, WA 98310

Seattle Central Library  
1000 Fourth Ave.  
Seattle, WA 98104

**3. What is the proposed action?**

The proposed action is to build a second EHW at Naval Base Kitsap at Bangor adjacent to, but separate from, the existing EHW. The construction of the second EHW consists of a covered wharf, a warping wharf and two access trestles.

- The warping wharf is a long narrow wharf extension used to position submarines prior to moving into the operations area of the EHW.
- The two access trestles support roads on which ordnance could be transported to and from the ordnance operations area.

#### 4. What is the purpose of the second EHW?

The purpose of the second EHW is to support current and future *Trident* Fleet Ballistic Missile program requirements.

#### 5. Why is a second EHW needed?

A second EHW is needed to ensure the Navy has in place the facilities required to offload/load missiles and perform required operations and upgrades necessary to maintain the *Trident* program.

#### 6. What is the *Trident* Program?

The *Trident* Fleet Ballistic Missile weapon system is the Navy's contribution to the nation's strategic deterrent mission.

- The *Trident* missile is a submarine-launched ballistic missile and is the latest of six generations of ballistic missiles with a proven track record of performance, reliability and safety.
- Ballistic missile submarines have been a vital part of the Navy's mission since the inception of the Polaris missile in 1956 and are an integral component of the Navy's ability to defend the nation.

#### 7. What is the mission of Naval Base Kitsap at Bangor?

Naval Base Kitsap is the largest naval organization in the Pacific Northwest and serves as the host command for the Navy's fleet throughout western Puget Sound. It includes installations at Bremerton, Bangor and Keyport.

Naval Base Kitsap at Bangor provides base operating services, including support for submarines homeported at Bangor. The base also provides world-class service, programs, and facilities that meet the needs of their hosted warfighting commands, tenant activities, crew and employees.

The primary mission of Naval Base Kitsap at Bangor from World War II through the Korean Conflict and Vietnam era was to store, handle and load ammunition onto Navy transport ships. In 1964, Naval Base Kitsap at Bangor's mission was expanded to include Polaris missile storage. Since the 1970s, Naval Base Kitsap at Bangor has been the West Coast homeport of the Navy's *Trident* Fleet Ballistic Missile submarine fleet.

#### 8. What environmental resources does the Navy anticipate the proposed action may affect?

The Navy, through the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, has completed an analysis of the potential environmental effects of the proposed action and alternatives on the environment. The Navy has analyzed a wide range of environmental resource areas including, but not limited to:

- The presence of endangered and threatened species: Seven federally listed fish, two listed marine mammals and one listed bird occur or may occur in the waterfront vicinity. These species may be affected by construction and operation of the project.
- Underwater noise: The proposed action would require new pile driving that may affect marine mammals and endangered and threatened species.
- Loss of underwater habitat: Placement of piles would reduce native bottom habitat.
- Limitations to marine corridors: Placement of piles and overwater structures may affect fish migration along the waterfront of Hood Canal.
- Water quality: During construction of the second EHW, sediment disturbance may result in temporary and localized effects on water quality.

Additional environmental issues identified by the public and agencies during the scoping period were evaluated and relevant issues were included in the Final EIS. The Final EIS describes the Navy's analysis (and the results of that analysis) of the potential environmental effects of the proposed action and alternatives.

#### 9. What threatened or endangered species may be affected by the proposed action?

As part of the EIS, the Navy conducted a thorough analysis to determine the potential effects to threatened and endangered species from the proposed action and the alternatives. At this time, the Navy is aware that seven federally listed fish, two listed marine mammals, and one listed bird may occur in the waterfront vicinity. These include:

- Fish: Puget Sound chinook salmon, Hood Canal summer-run chum salmon, bull trout and Puget Sound steelhead, and three species of rockfish.
- Marine Mammals: Steller sea lion and humpback whale.
- Birds: marbled murrelet.

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