



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVAL AIR WARFARE CENTER WEAPONS DIVISION
1 ADMINISTRATION CIRCLE 575 I AVENUE SUITE 1
CHINA LAKE, CA 93555-6100 POINT MUGU, CA 93042-5049

IN REPLY REFER TO:

5090
Ser EB2R00M/005
6 Apr 20

Dear Sir or Madam:

**SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE POINT MUGU SEA RANGE
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/OVERSEAS
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

The U.S. Navy has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) for the Point Mugu Sea Range to assess the potential environmental consequences associated with continuing military readiness activities previously analyzed in the *March 2002 Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division (NAWCWD) Point Mugu Sea Range Final EIS/OEIS* and environmental assessments completed at the Point Mugu Sea Range since 2002. In addition, the Navy is also analyzing the potential environmental consequences of proposed increases in research, development, acquisition, testing, and evaluation (hereinafter referred to as “testing”) and training activities. These activities are consistent with those analyzed in the 2002 analysis and are representative of Navy activities that have occurred in the Point Mugu Sea Range for decades. The Navy welcomes your review and substantive comments on the Draft EIS/OEIS.

The Point Mugu Sea Range is located adjacent to Los Angeles, Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo counties along the Pacific Coast of Southern California and includes 36,000 square miles of controlled sea and airspace designated for testing and training activities (Enclosure 1). NAWCWD Point Mugu meets its mission to conduct state-of-the-art weapons systems testing and evaluation and to maintain operational readiness by providing a safe, realistic, and instrumented testing environment. Vessels, aircraft, and weapons systems must be able to perform in realistic marine environments and operate as intended, thus improving system accuracy and personnel safety.

The Proposed Action is to continue military readiness activities and increase testing and training activities that are the same as or similar to those currently occurring within the Point Mugu Sea Range. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to:

- Provide modern instrumented airspace, sea space, testing and training areas, testing and training facilities, and range infrastructure to fully support current, emerging, and foreseeable future testing and training requirements.
- Ensure the long-term viability of the Point Mugu Sea Range while protecting human health and the environment.

The need for the Proposed Action is to allow for continued testing and training in support of military readiness and Department of Defense mission requirements as required by Title 10 and to provide combat-ready forces. The Draft EIS/OEIS supports the request for federal regulatory permits and authorizations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act. The Navy is consulting with the National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as required. The National Marine Fisheries Service is also a cooperating agency for the preparation of this EIS/OEIS.

Concurrent with the National Environmental Policy Act public involvement process, the Navy is consulting with interested parties for the National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 process regarding potential effects of proposed testing and training activities on historic properties. Historic properties include districts, sites, buildings, structures, or objects listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

The Draft EIS/OEIS is available for public review on the project website at www.pmsr-eis.com. Copies of the Draft EIS/OEIS are available for public review at the following public libraries, depending on COVID-19 conditions regulating access to public facilities. Please check with the library regarding its hours of operation and the availability of the document.

Camarillo Public Library
4101 Las Posas Road
Camarillo, CA 93010

Santa Barbara Public Library
40 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Carpinteria Branch Library
5141 Carpinteria Avenue
Carpinteria, CA 93013

South Oxnard Branch Library
4300 Saviers Road
Oxnard, CA 93033

E.P. Foster Library
651 E. Main Street
Ventura, CA 93001

Downtown Main Library – Oxnard
251 S. A Street
Oxnard, CA 93030

San Luis Obispo Library
995 Palm Street
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Due to current federal and state guidance on social distancing in response to COVID-19, the Navy will not hold in-person public meetings to support the Draft EIS/OEIS public review and comment period. If you have questions about the Proposed Action, the draft environmental impact analysis, or the Section 106 process, please email info@pmsr-eis.com or call 888-238-2375.

The Navy welcomes public comments on the Draft EIS/OEIS and potential effects on historic properties. Public comments will be accepted during the 45-day public review and comment period beginning April 24, 2020, through June 8, 2020. Comments must be

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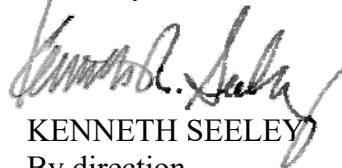
postmarked or received online by **June 8, 2020**, for consideration in the Final EIS/OEIS. All comments will become part of the public record and substantive comments will be addressed in the Final EIS/OEIS. Comments may be submitted via the project website at **www.pmsr-eis.com** or by mail to:

Commander, Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division
Range Sustainability Office
Point Mugu Sea Range, Building 53A, Room 106G, Code EB2R00M
575 I Avenue, Suite 1
Point Mugu, CA 93042-5049
Attention: EIS/OEIS Project Manager

For more information, please review the project informational brochure (Enclosure 2) or visit the project website at **www.pmsr-eis.com**. A CD-ROM of the Draft EIS/OEIS can be made available by submitting a request to the project manager at the address above.

Please help the Navy inform the community about the availability of the Draft EIS/OEIS by sharing this information with your staff and interested individuals.

Sincerely,



KENNETH SEELEY
By direction

- Enclosure: 1. Point Mugu Sea Range Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement Study Area
2. Point Mugu Sea Range Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement Project Informational Brochure

Enclosure 1: Point Mugu Sea Range Environmental Impact Statement/ Overseas Environmental Impact Statement Study Area

