



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 52F00ME/2805
April 18, 2018

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter is to inform you that the Department of the Navy (Navy) is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) for the Point Mugu Sea Range. The Navy proposes to continue conducting research, development, testing, and evaluation activities and training activities (hereinafter referred to as “testing and training activities”) within the Point Mugu Sea Range EIS/OEIS Study Area as analyzed in the March 2002 Point Mugu Sea Range Final EIS/OEIS. In addition, the Navy is proposing changes in activity frequency, new mission areas, and new platforms (such as aircraft and vessels). The Navy welcomes your comments on the scope of the analysis, including potential environmental issues and viable alternatives to be considered during the development of the Draft EIS/OEIS.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to (1) provide modern instrumented airspace and sea space, maneuver areas, testing and training areas, and range infrastructure to fully support current, emerging, and future testing and training requirements; and (2) ensure the long-term viability of the Point Mugu Sea Range while protecting human health and the environment. The environmental impact analysis will support the issuance of federal regulatory permits and authorizations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act.

The Point Mugu Sea Range EIS/OEIS Study Area includes the Point Mugu Sea Range, which consists of 36,000 square miles of controlled sea and airspace designated for military testing and training activities (Enclosure 1). The Study Area is located 60 miles northwest of Los Angeles offshore of Ventura County in southern California. The Navy has conducted testing and training activities in the Study Area for decades, with some activities dating back to 1946 when the Point Mugu Sea Range was established. The majority of the proposed testing and training activities to be analyzed in the EIS/OEIS are similar to the types of activities that have occurred in the Study Area for decades.

The Navy is holding two open house public scoping meetings to provide information and an opportunity for the public to comment on the scope of the analysis. The public scoping meetings will include an open-house information session, during which time Navy representatives will be available to provide information and answer questions. The public may arrive at any time as there will not be a presentation or formal oral comment session. Written comments will be accepted during the scoping meetings, which are being held from 5 to 8 p.m., at the following locations:

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Tuesday, May 15, 2018
Ventura, CA
San Buenaventura City Hall
Community Meeting Room
501 Poli St.

Wednesday, May 16, 2018
Santa Barbara, CA
Louise Lowry Davis Center
Larry Crandell Room
1232 De La Vina St.

Comments may also be submitted via the project website at <http://pmsr-eis.com>, or by mail to:

Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division Range Sustainability Office
Attention: EIS/OEIS Project Manager
Point Mugu Sea Range, Building 53A, Code 52F00ME
575 I Ave., Suite 1
Point Mugu, CA 93042

Public scoping comments will be accepted during the 60-day public review and comment period beginning April 27, 2018, through June 26, 2018. Comments must be postmarked or received online by **June 26, 2018**, for consideration in the development of the Draft EIS/OEIS.

For more information, please visit the project website at <http://pmsr-eis.com> or contact Dr. Kenneth R. Seeley, Program Manager, at 805-989-0927 or email kenneth.seeley@navy.mil.

Please help the Navy inform the community about the intent to prepare the EIS/OEIS for the Point Mugu Sea Range activities by sharing this information with your staff and interested individuals.

Sincerely,



JOHN GURKA
By direction

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

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