
Appendix M Federal Register Notices

**Environmental Impact Statement/
Overseas Environmental Impact Statement
Hawaii-California Training and Testing**

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APPENDIX M FEDERAL REGISTER NOTICES

M.1 NOTICE OF INTENT TO PREPARE AN EIS/OEIS



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Republic of Singapore Air Force (RSAF) F-15 fighter aircraft and constructing proposed infrastructure upgrades at Andersen AFB. The beddown of 12 RSAF F-15 fighter aircraft is in addition to what was previously proposed.

DATES: A public scoping period of 30 days, to update the public on changes to the DAF's proposal that have occurred since the original scoping period ended on May 30, 2021, will take place starting from the date of this NOI publication in the **Federal Register**. Comments will be accepted at any time during the environmental impact analysis process; however, to ensure the DAF has sufficient time to consider public scoping comments during preparation of the Draft EIS, please submit comments within the 30-day scoping period. The Draft EIS is anticipated mid-2024. The Final EIS and a decision on the Proposed Action are expected in early to mid-2025.

ADDRESSES: For EIS inquiries or requests for printed or digital copies of scoping materials, please contact Mr. David Martin, phone: (210) 925-4266 or david.martin.127@us.af.mil, or postal address provided below. The project website (www.AAFBInfraandF15EIS.com) provides additional information on the EIS and can be used to submit scoping comments. Scoping comments may also be submitted via postal mail to 36th Civil Engineer Squadron, ATTN: CEV (AAFB F-15 and Infrastructure EIS), Unit 14007, APO, AP 96543-4007. For printed material requests, the standard U.S. Postal Service shipping timeline will apply. Please consider the environment before requesting printed material.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The DAF is proposing to beddown and support the mission of 12 RSAF F-15 fighter aircraft, and construct infrastructure upgrades at Andersen AFB, Guam. Following the initial scoping period conducted in April to May 2021 (86 FR 20487, April 20, 2021), the DAF placed the EIS on a strategic pause to further consider the scope of the EIS, including the requirements of evolving strategic initiatives in the Indo-Pacific region and how the Proposed Action could best support these initiatives. As a result of the strategic pause, the DAF revised the scope of the Proposed Action to include the beddown of 12 RSAF F-15 fighter aircraft and associated mission support. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to provide critical infrastructure that enhances U.S. posture west of the International Date Line. Additionally, the purpose of the Proposed Action is to beddown and operate Republic of

Singapore Air Force fighter aircraft at Andersen AFB to support training requirements. The Proposed Action is needed to enhance DAF capability to support U.S. and partner nation forces within the Indo-Pacific region and strengthen the U.S.'s ability to respond regionally and worldwide, through construction of infrastructure upgrades and increased support of fighter aircraft, in alignment with evolving DAF and DoD strategies and initiatives for the region. Increasing and improving airfield and munitions infrastructure would address capability gaps and allow for greater efficiencies and agility in the way ground operations are conducted. The DAF is the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) lead agency, and the U.S. Navy is a cooperating agency for this EIS process.

Under this proposal, the DAF is considering the beddown and mission support of 12 RSAF F-15 fighter aircraft, increase in annual airfield operations, increase in personnel to support the mission, and new infrastructure upgrades adjacent to the northwest corner of the airfield and within the munitions storage area at Andersen AFB. Construction would take place over approximately 3 to 7 years and would include airfield pavements, an aircraft hangar, maintenance and utilities buildings, fuel systems, fencing and utilities, roadways and parking, stormwater management infrastructure, and earth covered magazines. Approximately 209 total acres would be disturbed during construction, which would be either developed sites or maintained vegetation once construction is complete. The proposed infrastructure has multiple uses and could support both the RSAF F-15 beddown and other DAF, service component, and partner nation aircraft or missions operating from Andersen AFB now or in the future. The DAF reviewed requirements for strategic capabilities within the Indo-Pacific region and identified Andersen AFB for enhanced capabilities, including beddown of 12 RSAF F-15 aircraft and upgrade of operationally relevant infrastructure, dismissing five other potential alternative locations within the Pacific Air Forces area of responsibility from consideration. Once Andersen AFB was identified for enhanced strategic capabilities, the DAF considered other locations on Andersen AFB for construction of infrastructure upgrades; however, only the Proposed Action locations were determined to meet the criteria for the infrastructure upgrades. The No Action Alternative will also be addressed in the EIS.

Additional review and consultation which will be incorporated into the preparation of the Draft EIS will include, but are not necessarily limited to, consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The DAF will conduct cultural and natural resources surveys in the areas proposed for upgrades and consult with appropriate resource agencies to determine the potential for significant impacts on those resources. The Draft EIS will present the analysis of the potential effects of the Proposed Action and alternatives, which may include effects on historic properties, sensitive species or habitat, socioeconomic, and the noise environment among other currently unknown potential effects. Any required permits or authorizations will be determined through the EIS analysis process and presented in the Draft EIS.

Scoping and Agency Coordination: To effectively define the full range of issues to be evaluated in the EIS, the DAF is soliciting comments from interested local, territorial, and federal elected officials and agencies, as well as interested members of the public and other stakeholders. Comments are requested on potential alternatives and impacts, and identification of any relevant information, studies, or analyses of any kind concerning impacts affecting the quality of the human environment. Concurrent with the publication of this Notice of Intent, public scoping notices will be announced locally. Public scoping updates will be accomplished via the project website at www.AAFBInfraandF15EIS.com. The website provides posters, an informational brochure, and other scoping materials, and the capability for the public to provide public scoping comments.

Tommy W. Lee,
Acting Air Force Federal Liaison Officer.
[FR Doc. 2023-27166 Filed 12-14-23; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 5001-10-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement/ Overseas Environmental Impact Statement for Hawaii-California Training and Testing Activities

AGENCY: Department of the Navy (DoN), Department of Defense (DoD).

86886

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ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, and regulations implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality, the Department of the Navy (DoN)(including both the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Marine Corps) in cooperation with the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Army, and U.S. Air Force, announces its intent to prepare the Hawaii-California Training and Testing (HCTT) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Overseas EIS (OEIS). The HCTT EIS/OEIS will include an analysis of range sustainment and modernization activities, training activities; and research, development, testing, and evaluation activities (hereafter referred to as “testing”) that will be conducted in the HCTT Study Area. When discussed together, training and testing are also referred to as “military readiness activities.” The DoN is initiating a 45-day public scoping process to receive comments on the scope of the EIS/OEIS including identification of potential alternatives and environmental concerns, information and analyses relevant to the Proposed Action, issues the public would like to see addressed in the EIS/OEIS, and the project’s potential to affect historic properties pursuant to section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966.

DATES: The 45-day public scoping period begins on December 15, 2023, and extends to January 29, 2024. The scoping period is extended 15 calendar days (from the usual 30-day period) since it overlaps with the holidays. Comments must be postmarked or submitted electronically via the website no later than 11:59 p.m. Pacific time on January 29, 2024 for consideration in the Draft EIS/OEIS. The DoN will host a virtual open house presentation on the project website during the scoping period to provide information related to the Proposed Action, its purpose and need, environmental resource areas to be analyzed in the EIS/OEIS, the NEPA process, the consultation under NHPA, and public involvement opportunities.

ADDRESSES: The DoN invites all interested parties to submit scoping comments on the EIS/OEIS or information regarding historic properties or section 106 consulting party interest through the project website at <http://www.nepa.navy.mil/hctteis> or by mail to: Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command, Pacific, Attention: HCTT EIS/OEIS Project Manager, 258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100, Pearl Harbor, HI 96860–3134.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: U.S. Pacific Fleet Command, Attn: Mr. Sean Gano, Environmental Public Affairs Specialist, 808–474–8441, or visit the project website: <http://www.nepa.navy.mil/hctteis>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet is the DoN’s lead action proponent. Additional DoN action proponents include Naval Sea Systems Command, Naval Air Systems Command, Naval Information Warfare Systems Command, Office of Naval Research, Naval Facilities Engineering Expeditionary Warfare Center, and the U.S. Marine Corps (USMC). In addition, this EIS/OEIS includes certain activities by the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Army, and U.S. Air Force when those activities are similar to Navy or Marine Corps activities and are scheduled on Navy controlled at-sea ranges.

Proposed military readiness activities are consistent with those analyzed in the 2018 Hawaii-Southern California Training and Testing (HSTT) EIS/OEIS and the 2022 Point Mugu Sea Range (PMSR) EIS/OEIS, and are representative of training and testing activities that have been conducted off Hawaii and California for more than 80 years.

The EIS/OEIS will include an analysis of military readiness activities using new information including an updated acoustic effects analysis, updated marine mammal density data, and evolving and emergent best available science.

The HCTT Study Area (hereafter referred to as the “Study Area”) is comprised of established operating and warning areas across the Pacific Ocean, from California west to Hawaii and the International Date Line. The HCTT Study Area differs from the HSTT Study Area in that HCTT includes an extended Southern California (SOCAL) Range Complex; special use airspace corresponding to the new extensions (Proposed W–293 and W–294); two existing training and testing ranges, the PMSR and Northern California (NOCAL) Range Complex; areas along the Southern California coastline from approximately Dana Point to Port Hueneme; and four amphibious approach lanes providing land access from the NOCAL Range Complex and PMSR. The Study Area also includes in-water areas of San Diego Bay, Port Hueneme, and Pearl Harbor, including select pierside facilities associated with DoN ports and naval shipyards and a transit corridor on the high seas and the channels and routes to and from those ports that are not part of the range

complexes, where training and testing may occur during vessel transit.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to ensure U.S. military services are able to organize, train, and equip service members and personnel to meet their respective national defense missions in accordance with their Congressionally mandated requirements¹ and advance joint interoperability in Navy led exercises with other military service.

The Proposed Action is to conduct at-sea military readiness activities and range modernization within HCTT the Study Area. Activities include the use of active sonar and explosives while employing marine species protective mitigation measures.

The Navy has identified two preliminary action alternatives to carry forward for analysis in the EIS/OEIS along with the No Action Alternative. Alternative 1 reflects a representative year of training and testing to account for the natural fluctuation of training cycles and deployment schedules that generally limit the maximum level of training occurring every year over any seven-year period. Alternative 2 reflects the maximum number of training and testing activities that could occur within a given year and assumes that the maximum level of activity would occur every year over any seven-year period. As required by NEPA for the purpose of establishing a baseline for analysis, a No Action Alternative will be evaluated which represents a scenario where no military readiness activities are conducted in the Study Area. The tempo and types of training and testing activities have fluctuated because of the introduction of new technologies, the evolving nature of international events, advances in war fighting doctrine and procedures, and changes in force structure (organization of ships, submarines, aircraft, weapons, and Sailors). Such developments influence the frequency, duration, intensity, and location of required training and testing activities. The HCTT EIS/OEIS will reflect the current compilation of training and testing activities required to fulfill the military readiness requirements, and therefore both action alternatives include the analysis of newly proposed activities and changes to previously analyzed activities. Additionally, both action alternatives will include modernization and sustainment of ranges necessary to support military readiness activities. Modernization and sustainment

¹ 10 United States Code (U.S.C.), sections 8062 (Navy), 8063 (USMC), 9062 (U.S. Air Force) and 14 U.S.C., sections 101 and 102 (USCG).

proposals include new special use airspace in Southern California, an expansion of an underwater training range near San Clemente Island, and installation and maintenance of mine training areas off Hawaii and California.

Environmental resources that are determined to be potentially affected are carried forward for full analysis. Resources to be evaluated include, but are not limited to, biological resources (including marine mammals, reptiles, fishes, vegetation, invertebrates, habitats, birds, and other protected species), sediments and water quality, air quality, cultural resources, socioeconomic resources, and public health and safety. The EIS/OEIS will also analyze measures that would avoid, minimize, or mitigate environmental effects. The Navy will conduct all coordination and consultation activities required by the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), NHPA, Endangered Species Act (ESA), National Marine Sanctuaries Act, Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, Clean Water Act, Rivers and Harbor Act, Coastal Zone Management Act, Clean Air Act, and other laws and regulations determined to be applicable to the project. As part of this process, the DoN will seek the issuance of regulatory permits and authorizations under MMPA and ESA to support at-sea mission readiness activities within the Study Area, beginning in December 2025.

Pursuant to 40 CFR 1501.8, the DoN invited the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Federal Aviation Administration to be cooperating agencies in preparation of the EIS/OEIS.

The scoping process invites comments on the scope of the EIS/OEIS including identification of potential alternatives, information and analyses relevant to the Proposed Action, identification of environmental concerns, issues the public would like to see addressed in the EIS/OEIS, and the projects potential to affect historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the NHPA. Parties with demonstrated interest in the undertaking and its effects on historic properties may request to become a consulting party in the section 106 process. Federal agencies, State agencies, local agencies, Native American Indian Tribes and Nations, Native Hawaiian Organizations, the public, and interested persons are encouraged to provide comments.

Comments must be postmarked or submitted electronically via the website no later than 11:59 p.m. Pacific time on January 29, 2024 for consideration during the development of the Draft

EIS/OEIS. Comments can be submitted electronically via the project website at <http://www.nepa.navy.mil/hctteis> or mailed to the address noted above.

After the scoping period, DoN will coordinate with participating and cooperating agencies to develop a Draft EIS/OEIS. The DoN intends to release the Draft EIS/OEIS in the fall of 2024, release the Final EIS/OEIS in the fall of 2025, and sign a Record of Decision following the 30-day Final EIS/OEIS wait period.

Dated: December 4, 2023.

J.E. Koningisor,
Lieutenant Commander, Judge Advocate
General's Corps, U.S. Navy, Federal Register
Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 2023-26905 Filed 12-14-23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3810-FF-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED-2023-SCC-0212]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; U.S. Department of Education Grant Performance Report Form (ED 524B)

AGENCY: Office of Finance and
Operations (OFO), Department of
Education (ED).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the
Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of
1995, the Department is proposing a
revision of a currently approved
information collection request (ICR).

DATES: Interested persons are invited to
submit comments on or before February
13, 2024.

ADDRESSES: To access and review all the
documents related to the information
collection listed in this notice, please
use <https://www.regulations.gov> by
searching the Docket ID number ED-
2023-SCC-0212. Comments submitted
in response to this notice should be
submitted electronically through the
Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> by selecting the
Docket ID number or via postal mail,
commercial delivery, or hand delivery.
If the regulations.gov site is not
available to the public for any reason,
the Department will temporarily accept
comments at ICDocketMgr@ed.gov.
Please include the docket ID number
and the title of the information
collection request when requesting
documents or submitting comments.
Please note that comments submitted
after the comment period will not be
accepted. Written requests for
information or comments submitted by
postal mail or delivery should be

addressed to the Manager of the
Strategic Collections and Clearance
Governance and Strategy Division, U.S.
Department of Education, 400 Maryland
Ave. SW, LBJ, Room 6W203,
Washington, DC 20202-8240.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For
specific questions related to collection
activities, please contact Cleveland
Knight, 202-987-0064.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The
Department, in accordance with the
Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA)
(44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), provides the
general public and Federal agencies
with an opportunity to comment on
proposed, revised, and continuing
collections of information. This helps
the Department assess the impact of its
information collection requirements and
minimize the public's reporting burden.
It also helps the public understand the
Department's information collection
requirements and provide the requested
data in the desired format. The
Department is soliciting comments on
the proposed information collection
request (ICR) that is described below.
The Department is especially interested
in public comment addressing the
following issues: (1) is this collection
necessary to the proper functions of the
Department; (2) will this information be
processed and used in a timely manner;
(3) is the estimate of burden accurate;
(4) how might the Department enhance
the quality, utility, and clarity of the
information to be collected; and (5) how
might the Department minimize the
burden of this collection on the
respondents, including through the use
of information technology. Please note
that written comments received in
response to this notice will be
considered public records.

Title of Collection: U.S. Department of
Education Grant Performance Report
Form (ED 524B).

OMB Control Number: 1894-0003.

Type of Review: Revision of a
currently approved ICR.

Respondents/Affected Public: State,
Local, and Tribal Governments.

**Total Estimated Number of Annual
Responses:** 13,300.

**Total Estimated Number of Annual
Burden Hours:** 297,800.

Abstract: The ED 524B form and
instructions are used by many ED
discretionary grant programs to enable
grantees to meet ED deadline dates for
submission of performance reports to
the Department.

As an interim (usually annual)
performance report, ED uses the
information submitted by grantees in
the ED 524B to evaluate grantee
performance and progress and to

M.2 NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS



100990

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Pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1114(b), the MERHC BoA reports annually to the Secretary of Defense and the Deputy Secretary of Defense on the actuarial status of the Fund and shall furnish its advice and opinion on matters referred to it by the Secretary of Defense. Pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1114(c), the MERHC BoA reviews valuations of the Fund under 10 U.S.C. 1115(c) and reports periodically, not less than once every four years to the President and Congress on the status of the Fund. The MERHC BoA shall include in such reports recommendations for such changes as in the MERHC BoA's judgment are necessary to protect the public interest and maintain the Fund on a sound actuarial basis.

The MERHC BoA, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1114(a)(1) and (2), shall consist of three members who shall be appointed by the Secretary of Defense from among qualified professional actuaries who are members of the Society of Actuaries. MERHC BoA members will serve for a term of 15-years, except that a MERHC BoA member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring before the end of the term of which the predecessor was appointed shall serve only until the end of such term. A MERHC BoA member may serve after the end of the term until a successor has taken office. Of the members of the Board, one each shall be appointed for terms ending five, ten, and 15 years respectively, after the date of appointment, as designated by the Secretary of Defense at the time of appointment.

MERHC BoA members who are not full-time or permanent part-time Federal civilian officers or employees, or active-duty members of the Uniformed Services, shall be appointed as experts or consultants pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3109 to serve as special government employee members and are entitled, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1114(a)(3), to receive pay at the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay of the highest rate of basic pay under the General Schedule of subchapter 53 of title 5 U.S.C., for each day the member is engaged in the performance of duties vested in the MERHC BoA. MERHC BoA members who are full-time or permanent part-time Federal civilian officers or employees, or members of the uniformed Services, shall be appointed pursuant to 41 CFR 102–3.130(a) to serve as regular government employee members.

Each MERHC BoA member is appointed to exercise their own judgment on behalf of the DoD, without representing any particular point of view, and to discuss and deliberate in

a manner that is free from conflict of interest.

The public or interested organizations may submit written statements to the MERHC BoA membership about its mission and functions. Written statements may be submitted at any time or in response to the stated agenda of planned meeting of the MERHC BoA. All written statements shall be submitted to the DFO for the MERHC BoA, and this individual will ensure that the written statements are provided to the membership for their consideration.

Dated: December 9, 2024.

Aaron T. Siegel,
Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison
Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 2024–29338 Filed 12–12–24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6001–FR–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Notice of Public Meetings for Hawaii-California Training and Testing Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (ID# EISX–007–17–USN–1724283453)

AGENCY: Department of the Navy (DoN), Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality implementing regulations, and Presidential Executive Order 12114, the DoN (including both the United States [U.S.] Navy and the U.S. Marine Corps [USMC]), as the lead agency, jointly with the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Army, and U.S. Air Force, has prepared and filed with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency a Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) for Hawaii-California Training and Testing (HCTT) activities. The Draft EIS/OEIS includes an analysis of the potential environmental effects associated with conducting at-sea training and testing activities, and modernization and sustainment of ranges (collectively referred to as “military readiness activities”) within the HCTT Study Area.

DATES: The 60-day public comment period begins December 13, 2024, and ends February 11, 2025. The comment period includes an additional 15 calendar days (from the required 45 days) to allow the public more time to

review and comment during the holiday season. In support of NEPA requirements, in-person public meetings in California and Hawaii and a virtual public meeting will be held in January 2025 to provide an overview of the Draft EIS/OEIS and answer questions from the public. Each meeting will also provide an opportunity to learn about how the military services are complying with the Section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and to comment on potential effects on historic properties. The public can submit comments during the Draft EIS/OEIS public review and comment period at one of the in-person public meetings, electronically via the project website (www.nepa.navy.mil/hctteis/), or via U.S. postal mail. Public comments on the Draft EIS/OEIS must be postmarked or received online by 11:59 p.m. Hawaii standard time (HST) Tuesday, February 11, 2025, for consideration in the Final EIS/OEIS.

Three in-person public meetings will be held as follows:

1. January 13, 2025, from 4 to 7 p.m. Pacific standard time (PST) at Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal, San Diego, CA;
2. January 15, 2025, from 4 to 7 p.m. HST at Ke‘ehi Lagoon Memorial, Weinberg Hall, 2685 Nimitz Highway, Honolulu, HI;
3. January 16, 2025, from 4 to 7 p.m. HST at Kauai Veterans Center, 3215 Kauai Veterans Memorial Highway, Lihue, HI.

One virtual public meeting will be held on January 22, 2025, from 3 to 4 p.m. HST/5 to 6 p.m. PST/8 to 9 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST).

ADDRESSES: Comments on the Draft EIS/OEIS may be provided at the in-person public meetings, electronically through the project website at: www.nepa.navy.mil/hctteis/, or by U.S. postal mail to: Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Pacific; Attention: HCTT EIS/OEIS Project Manager; 258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100, Pearl Harbor, HI 96860–3134.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: U.S. Pacific Fleet Command, Attention: Ms. Heather Paynter, Environmental Public Affairs Specialist, 808–474–8441, CPF-Environmental-PA@us.navy.mil, or visit the project website: www.nepa.navy.mil/hctteis/.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet is the DoN's lead action proponent. Additional DoN action proponents include Naval Sea Systems Command, Naval Air Systems Command, Naval Information Warfare Systems Command, Office of Naval Research, Naval

Facilities Engineering Expeditionary Warfare Center, and the USMC. In addition, the EIS/OEIS includes certain activities by the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Army, and U.S. Air Force when those activities are similar to DoN or USMC activities and are scheduled on DoN-controlled at-sea ranges.

Proposed military readiness activities are similar to those analyzed in the 2018 Hawaii-Southern California Training and Testing (HSTTT) EIS/OEIS and the at-sea activities in the 2022 Point Mugu Sea Range (PMSR) EIS/OEIS and are consistent with activities that have been conducted off Hawaii and California for more than 80 years.

The Draft EIS/OEIS includes an analysis of military readiness activities using new information, including an updated acoustic analysis, updated marine mammal density data, and evolving and emergent best available science.

The HCTT Study Area (hereafter referred to as the "Study Area") consists primarily of the Hawaii Study Area, the California Study Area, and the transit corridor connecting the two. The Study Area includes the at-sea components of the range complexes (Hawaii Range Complex, Southern California [SOCAL] Range Complex, PMSR, Northern California [NOCAL] Range Complex), DoN pier-side locations and port transit channels, bays, harbors, inshore waterways, amphibious approach lanes, and civilian ports where training and testing activities occur. The HCTT Study Area differs from the HSTTT Study Area in that HCTT includes an expanded SOCAL Range Complex; special use airspace (Proposed Warning Area [W]-293 and Proposed W-294) corresponding to the expanded SOCAL Range Complex; new testing sea space between Proposed W-293 and PMSR; two existing training and testing ranges, the PMSR and NOCAL Range Complex; areas along the Southern California coastline from approximately Dana Point to Port Hueneme; and four amphibious approach lanes providing land access from the NOCAL Range Complex and PMSR. While the overall boundaries of the Hawaii portion of the Study Area have not changed from the 2018 HSTTT EIS/OEIS, nearshore areas, such as Kaneohe Bay or Marine Corps Training Area Bellows, are proposed to be used more frequently or for new training or testing activities, such as mine warfare training.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to conduct military readiness activities, comprised of training, testing, and modernization and sustainment of ranges, within the Study Area to ensure U.S. military services are able to

organize, train, and equip service members and personnel, needed to meet their respective national defense missions in accordance with their Congressionally mandated requirements.¹ Training and testing activities that include the use of active sonar, explosives, or other sources of underwater sound would employ mitigation measures to potentially reduce or avoid adverse effects on marine species. Range modernization and sustainment activities include new special use airspace in Southern California, installation and maintenance of underwater ranges in Southern California and Hawaii, deployment of seafloor cables and connected instrumentation south and west of San Clemente Island in the California Study Area and northeast of Oahu and west of Kauai in the Hawaii Study Area, installation and maintenance of mine warfare and other training areas offshore of Hawaii and Southern California, and installation and maintenance of underwater platforms in Hawaii and Southern California.

Potential effects on environmental resources resulting from activities included in the two Action Alternatives and the No Action Alternative were evaluated in accordance with 40 CFR 1502.16. Resources evaluated include, but are not limited to, biological (including marine mammals, reptiles, fishes, vegetation, invertebrates, habitats, birds, and other protected species), sediments and water quality, air quality, cultural, socioeconomic and environmental justice, and public health and safety. The Draft EIS/OEIS also includes an analysis of measures that would avoid, minimize, or mitigate environmental effects potentially resulting from military readiness activities. Direct, indirect, and cumulative effects on these resource areas are analyzed in the Draft EIS/OEIS.

The DoN, as the lead action proponent, is coordinating and consulting with appropriate Federal agencies as required by the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), NHPA, Endangered Species Act (ESA), National Marine Sanctuaries Act, Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, Clean Water Act, Rivers and Harbors Act, Coastal Zone Management Act, Clean Air Act, and other laws and regulations determined to be applicable to the project. As part of this process, the military services are seeking the

issuance of regulatory permits and authorizations under MMPA and ESA to support at-sea military readiness activities within the Study Area, beginning in December 2025. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is a cooperating agency in the preparation of the EIS/OEIS. In the rule-making process, NMFS will consider the potential effects of the Proposed Action on the marine environment. The EIS/OEIS will support NMFS' rule-making process to issue MMPA authorizations.

The military services distributed the Draft EIS/OEIS to government agencies they are consulting with and to federally recognized Tribes and other stakeholders. The Draft EIS/OEIS is available for public review on the project website at www.nepa.navy.mil/hctteis/ and at these public libraries:

1. Billie Jean King Main Library, 200 W Broadway, Long Beach, CA 90802.
2. City of San Diego Central Library, 330 Park Blvd., San Diego, CA 92101.
3. Coast Community Branch of Mendocino County Library, 640 Orange Ave., Coronado, CA 92118.
5. E.P. Foster Library, 651 E Main St., Ventura, CA 93001.
6. Los Angeles Central Library, 630 W 5th St., Los Angeles, CA 90071.
7. Monterey Public Library, 625 Pacific St., Monterey, CA 93940.
8. San Luis Obispo Library, 995 Palm St., San Luis Obispo, CA 93403.
9. Hawaii State Library, 478 S King St., Honolulu, HI 96813.
10. Hilo Public Library, 300 Waianuenue Ave., Hilo, HI 96720.
11. Kahului Public Library, 90 School St., Kahului, HI 96732.
12. Kailua-Kona Public Library, 75-138 Hualalai Road, Kailua-Kona, HI 96740.
13. Lihue Public Library, 4344 Hardy St., Lihue, HI 96766.
14. Molokai Public Library, 15 Ala Malama Ave., Kaunakakai, HI 96748.

The public involvement process is helpful in identifying public concerns and local issues to be considered during the development of the EIS/OEIS and encouraging comments on the environmental analysis. Federal, State, and local agencies; federally recognized Tribes and Tribal groups; Native Hawaiian Organizations; nongovernmental organizations; and interested persons are encouraged to provide substantive comments on the Proposed Action and the environmental analysis, as well as the project's potential to affect historic properties as it relates to Section 106 of the NHPA. All comments provided at the in-person public meetings, electronically via the

¹ 10 United States Code (U.S.C.) sections 8062 (Navy), 8063 (USMC), 7062 (U.S. Army), 9062 (U.S. Air Force) and 14 U.S.C. 101 and 102 (USCG).

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project website, or mailed to the address provided in the ADDRESSES section will be considered during the development of the Final EIS/OEIS.

In-person public meetings will include an open-house information session, a short presentation by DoN representatives, and a public oral comment session. The presentation will begin at approximately 5 p.m. local time. DoN representatives will be available during the open-house information sessions to answer questions and clarify information related to the Draft EIS/OEIS. Attendees will be able to submit oral and written comments during the in-person public meetings. Oral comments from the public will be recorded by a court reporter and each speaker's comments will be limited to three (3) minutes. Equal weight will be given to oral and written statements.

During the virtual public meeting, DoN representatives will provide a short presentation and answer questions submitted by the public. Questions concerning the Draft EIS/OEIS will be accepted in advance through January 15, 2025, via the question form on the project website. Questions may also be submitted in writing during the meeting. Please note that questions submitted as part of the question-and-answer session are not official public comments; public comments should be submitted at the in-person public meetings, electronically via the project website (www.nepa.navy.mil/hctteis/), or via U.S. postal mail. An audio-only option will be available for the virtual public meeting. The project website has more information on attending the virtual public meeting.

A virtual open house presentation will also be available on the project website to provide more information about the Proposed Action, its purpose and need, potential effects on environmental resource areas from the Proposed Action, the NEPA and NHPA Section 106 processes, and public involvement opportunities. The public can view the virtual open house presentation at the project website anytime during the Draft EIS/OEIS public review and comment period.

Dated: December 6, 2024.

A.J. Gioiello,
Lieutenant Commander, Judge Advocate
General's Corps, U.S. Navy, Federal Register
Liaison Officer.

FR Doc. 2024 29123 Filed 12 12 24; 8:15 am]

BILLING CODE 9810-FF-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No.: ED-2024-SCC-0108]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Comment Request; School Pulse Panel 2024-25 Data Collection

AGENCY: Institute of Education Sciences (IES), Department of Education (ED).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, the Department is proposing a revision of a currently approved information collection request (ICR).

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before January 13, 2025.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for proposed information collection requests should be submitted within 30 days of publication of this notice. Click on this link www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain to access the site. Find this information collection request (ICR) by selecting "Department of Education" under "Currently Under Review," then check the "Only Show ICR for Public Comment" checkbox. Reginfo.gov provides two links to view documents related to this information collection request. Information collection forms and instructions may be found by clicking on the "View Information Collection (IC) List" link. Supporting statements and other supporting documentation may be found by clicking on the "View Supporting Statement and Other Documents" link. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For specific questions related to collection activities, please contact Carrie Clarady, (202) 245-6347.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology. Please note that written comments received in response to this notice will be considered public records.

Title of Collection: School Pulse Panel 2024-25 Data Collection.

OMB Control Number: 1850-0969.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved ICR.

Respondents/Affected Public: State, Local, and Tribal Governments.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 53,955.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 10,175.

Abstract: The School Pulse Panel is an ongoing study conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), part of the Institute of Education Sciences (IES), within the United States Department of Education, to collect extensive data on current and emerging issues concerning students and staff in U.S. public primary, middle, high, and combined-grade schools. Specifically, the survey will ask school leaders about topics such as staffing, college and career readiness, artificial intelligence, tutoring, summer and after-school programs, facilities, and learning strategies and recovery, among other topics. The SPP has become one of the nation's main sources of timely and reliable data on issues concerning the education environment, as reported by principals in U.S. public schools.

The preliminary activities for the 2024-25 data collection was formally cleared in January 2024 (OMB# 1850-0969 v.12) and the SPP monthly data collection package was formally cleared in June 2024 (OMB# 1850-0969 v.13). A change request (v.14) was cleared in June 2024 to make changes to the 2024-25 preliminary activities package in order to modify the July 2024 communication materials and screener survey. A change request (v.15) was cleared in August 2024 to make changes to the August 2024, September 2024, and October 2024 instruments, informed by cognitive testing results with school staff. A 30-day public comment period package (v.16) was cleared in October 2024 that included new items (within the scope of the research domains previously established) to be collected on the November 2024, December 2024, and January 2025 instruments, as well as planned items for the rest of the study year, through June 2025. A change request (v.17) was cleared in November 2024 to make changes to the December 2024, January 2025, and February 2025 instruments, informed by cognitive testing results with school staff.

The new revision (v.18) is focused on a 30-day public comment period on new items (within the scope of the research domains previously established) to be collected on the March 2025-June 2025 School Pulse Panels. These items are considered very close to final and will go through minimal testing with school personnel to examine any

M.3 NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT EIS/OEIS



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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**[EPA-HQ-OAR-2020-0628; FRL-12490-01-OMS]**

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Comment Request; NSPS for Sulfuric Acid Plants (Renewal)

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has submitted an information collection request (ICR), NSPS for Sulfuric Acid Plants (EPA ICR Number 1057.16, OMB Control Number 2060-0041) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act. This is a proposed extension of the ICR, which is currently approved through December 31, 2024. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** on May 18, 2023 during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

DATES: Additional comments may be submitted on or before January 13, 2025.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, referencing Docket ID Number EPA-HQ-OAR-2020-0628, to EPA online using <https://www.regulations.gov/> (our preferred method), by email to a-and-r-docket@epa.gov, or by mail to: EPA Docket Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Mail Code 28221T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20460.

The EPA's policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes profanity, threats, information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute.

Submit written comments and recommendations to OMB for the proposed information collection within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Muntasir Ali, Sector Policies and Program Division (D243-05), Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards,

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, 27711; telephone number: (919) 541-0833; email address: ali.muntasir@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Supporting documents which explain in detail the information that the EPA will be collecting are available in the public docket for this ICR. The docket can be viewed online at <https://www.regulations.gov> or in person at the EPA Docket Center, WJC West Building, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC. The telephone number for the Docket Center is 202-566-1744. For additional information about EPA's public docket, visit <http://www.epa.gov/dockets>.

Abstract: The New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) for the regulations published at 40 CFR part 60, subpart H were proposed on August 17, 1971; promulgated on December 23, 1971; and amended most-recently on February 27, 2014 (79 FR 11250). These regulations apply to existing facilities and new facilities. New facilities include those that commenced construction, modification, or reconstruction after the date of proposal. A sulfuric acid plant is any facility producing sulfuric acid (H₂SO₄) by the contact process by burning elemental sulfur, alkylation acid, hydrogen sulfide, organic sulfides and mercaptans, or acid sludge. A sulfuric acid plant does not include facilities where conversion to sulfuric acid is used primarily as a means of preventing emissions to the atmosphere of sulfur dioxide (SO₂) or other sulfur compounds. This information is being collected to assure compliance with 40 CFR part 60, subpart H.

Form Numbers: None.

Respondents/affected entities:

Sulfuric acid manufacturing plants.

Respondent's obligation to respond:

Mandatory (40 CFR part 60, subpart H).

Estimated number of respondents: 53 (total).

Frequency of response: Semiannually.

Total estimated burden: 13,500 hours (per year). Burden is defined at 5 CFR 1320.3(b).

Total estimated cost: \$2,110,000 (per year), includes \$416,000 annualized capital or operation & maintenance costs.

Changes in the Estimates: There is no change in burden from the most recently approved ICR as currently identified in the OMB Inventory of Approved Burdens. This is due to two considerations. First, the regulations have not changed over the past three years and are not anticipated to change

over the next three years. Second, the growth rate for this industry is very low or non-existent, so there is no significant change in the overall burden. There is an increase in capital and operation & maintenance costs due to an adjustment to increase from 2005 to 2022 \$ using the CEPCI Equipment Cost Index.

Courtney Kerwin,

Director, Information Engagement Division.

[FR Doc. 2024-29112 Filed 12-12-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**[FRL OP-OFA-156]****Environmental Impact Statements; Notice of Availability**

Responsible Agency: Office of Federal Activities, General Information 202-564-5632 or <https://www.epa.gov/nepa>.

Weekly receipt of Environmental Impact Statements (EIS)

Filed December 2, 2024 10 a.m. EST

Through December 9, 2024 10 a.m. EST

Pursuant to 40 CFR 1506.9.

Notice: Section 309(a) of the Clean Air Act requires that EPA make public its comments on EISs issued by other Federal agencies. EPA's comment letters on EISs are available at: <https://cdxapps.epa.gov/cdx-enepa-II/public/action/eis/search>.

EIS No. 20240229, Final, DOE, NV, ADOPTION—Rhyolite Ridge Lithium-Boron Mine Project, Contact: David A. Oster 240-457-7973. The Department of Energy (DOE) has adopted the Bureau of Land Management's Final EIS No. 20240166 filed 09/13/2024 with the Environmental Protection Agency. The DOE was a cooperating agency on this project. Therefore, republication of the document is not necessary under Section 1506.3(b)(2) of the CEQ regulations.

EIS No. 20240230, Draft, USN, USCG, USA, USAF, HI, Hawaii-California Training and Testing, Comment Period Ends: 02/11/2025, Contact: Alex Stone 808-226-3896.

EIS No. 20240231, Draft, FTA, WA, Tacoma Dome Link Extension, Comment Period Ends: 02/11/2025, Contact: Erin Littauer 206-220-7521.

EIS No. 20240232, Final, NOAA, HI, Papahānaumokuākea National Marine Sanctuary, Review Period Ends: 01/13/2025, Contact: Eric Roberts 808-725-5807.

EIS No. 20240233, Final, NOAA, FL, Florida Keys National Marine

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Sanctuary: Restoration, Review Period Ends: 01/13/2025. Contact: Beth Dieveney 305-797-6818.
EIS No. 20240234, Draft, BOEM, LA, Gulf of Mexico Regional OCS Oil and Gas Lease Sales, Comment Period Ends: 01/27/2025, Contact: Helen Rucker 504-736-2421.
EIS No. 20240235, Final, USACE, NE, Nebraska Highway 12 Niobrara East and West, Review Period Ends: 01/27/2025, Contact: Lee Fuerst 720-922-3840.

Amended Notice

EIS No. 20240207, Final, USCG, WA, Expansion and Modernization of Base Seattle, Washington, Review Period Ends: 01/10/2025, Contact: Dean Amundson 510-637-5541. Revision to FR Notice Published 11/15/2024; Extending the Comment Period from 12/16/2024 to 01/10/2025.

Dated: December 9, 2024.

Mark Austin.

Acting Director, NEPA Compliance Division,
 Office of Federal Activities.

FR Doc. 2024-29368 Filed 12-12-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**[EPA-HQ-OW-2024-0481; FRL 11244-01-OW]**

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) 2026 Issuance of the Multi-Sector General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated With Industrial Activity

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice; request for public comment.

SUMMARY: All 10 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Regions are proposing for public comment the 2026 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) general permit for stormwater discharges associated with industrial activity, also referred to as the "2026 Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP)" or the "proposed permit." The proposed permit once finalized will replace the EPA's existing MSGP that expires on February 28, 2026. The EPA proposes to issue this permit for five (5) years. Once finalized, this permit will be available in areas where the EPA is the NPDES permitting authority. The EPA solicits comment on all aspects of the proposed general permit and seeks public comment on specific requests for information as described in of this document. The public is encouraged to

read the proposed permit fact sheet to better understand the proposed permit requirements. The proposed permit and fact sheet can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater-discharges-industrial-activities>.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before February 11, 2025. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act, comments on the information collection provisions must be received by OMB on or before January 13, 2025.

ADDRESSES: You may send comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2024-0481, by any of the following methods:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** <https://www.regulations.gov/> (our preferred method). Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- **Mail:** U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA Docket Center, Office of Water Docket, Mail Code 28221T, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460.
- **Hand Delivery or Courier:** EPA Docket Center, WJC West Building, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20004. The Docket Center's hours of operations are 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday (except Federal holidays).

Instructions: All submissions received must include the Docket ID No. for this rulemaking. Comments received may be posted without change to <https://www.regulations.gov/>, including any personal information provided. For detailed instructions on sending comments and additional information on the rulemaking process, see the "Public Participation" heading of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Contact the appropriate EPA Regional office listed in section I.D of this document, or contact Alicia Denning, EPA Headquarters, Office of Water, Office of Wastewater Management, Mail Code 4203M, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: 202-564-0018; email address: denning.alicia@epa.gov. Electronic versions of the proposed permit and fact sheet are also available on EPA's NPDES website at <https://www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater-discharges-industrial-activities>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

This section is organized as follows:

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- II. Background
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 - A. Geographic Coverage
 - B. Activities Covered
 - C. Summary of Proposed Permit and Changes from the 2021 MSGP
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- VI. Statutory and Executive Orders Reviews
 - A. Executive Order 12866: Regulatory Planning and Review and Executive Order 14094: Modernizing Regulatory Review
 - B. Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA)
 - C. Executive Order 12898: Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations and Executive Order 14096: Revitalizing Our Nation's Commitment to Environmental Justice for All
 - D. Executive Order 13175: Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments

I. General Information**A. Does this action apply to me?**

The proposed permit covers stormwater discharges from industrial facilities in the 30 sectors shown below:

- Sector A—Timber Products.
- Sector B—Paper and Allied Products Manufacturing.
- Sector C—Chemical and Allied Products Manufacturing.
- Sector D—Asphalt Paving and Roofing Materials Manufacturers and Lubricant Manufacturers.
- Sector E—Glass, Clay, Cement, Concrete, and Gypsum Product Manufacturing.
- Sector F—Primary Metals.
- Sector G—Metal Mining (Ore Mining and Dressing).
- Sector H—Coal Mines and Coal Mining-Related Facilities.
- Sector I—Oil and Gas Extraction.
- Sector J—Mineral Mining and Dressing.
- Sector K—Hazardous Waste Treatment Storage or Disposal.
- Sector L—Landfills and Land Application Sites.
- Sector M—Automobile Salvage Yards.
- Sector N—Scrap Recycling Facilities.
- Sector O—Steam Electric Generating Facilities.
- Sector P—Land Transportation.
- Sector Q—Water Transportation.
- Sector R—Ship and Boat Building or Repairing Yards.
- Sector S—Air Transportation Facilities.
- Sector T—Treatment Works.
- Sector U—Food and Kindred Products.
- Sector V—Textile Mills, Apparel, and other Fabric Products Manufacturing.
- Sector W—Furniture and Fixtures.
- Sector X—Printing and Publishing.
- Sector Y—Rubber, Miscellaneous Plastic Products, and Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries.
- Sector Z—Leather Tanning and Finishing.
- Sector AA—Fabricated Metal Products.