

**FINAL SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/  
OVERSEAS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT  
GULF OF ALASKA TRAINING ACTIVITIES**

**Lead Agency:** United States Department of the Navy  
**Cooperating Agency:** National Marine Fisheries Service  
**Title of the Proposed Action:** Gulf of Alaska Training Activities  
**Designation:** Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement

**Abstract**

The United States Department of the Navy (Navy) prepared this Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS)/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (OEIS) in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (42 United States Code section 4321 et seq.); the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations parts 1500 et seq. [2019]); Navy Procedures for Implementing NEPA (32 Code of Federal Regulations part 775); and Executive Order 12114, *Environmental Effects Abroad of Major Federal Actions*. This SEIS/OEIS was prepared to update the Navy's assessment of the potential environmental impacts associated with proposed military readiness activities to be conducted in the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). The Proposed Action is to conduct an annual exercise, historically referred to as Northern Edge, for up to 21 consecutive days between April and October.

This SEIS/OEIS evaluates the potential environmental impacts of continuing training activities upon the expiration of the current authorizations and consultations in 2022 and into the foreseeable future. Two alternatives were analyzed in this SEIS/OEIS:

- The No Action Alternative represents no Navy training activities at sea or in the airspace associated with the Proposed Action within the GOA Study Area, and presents the resulting environmental effects from taking no action when compared with the effects of the Proposed Action.
- Alternative 1 is the Preferred Alternative and is a Status Quo Alternative based on the 2016 GOA Final SEIS/OEIS and 2017 GOA Record of Decision. Though the types of activities and level of events are the same as in previous documents (Alternative 1 in both the 2011 GOA Final Environmental Impact Statement/OEIS and 2016 GOA Final SEIS/OEIS), there have been changes in the platforms and systems used as part of those activities (e.g., EA-6B aircraft and Oliver Hazard Perry Class Frigate, and their associated systems, have been replaced with the EA-18G aircraft, Littoral Combat Ship, and Constellation Class Frigate), and use of the Portable Underwater Tracking Range is no longer proposed. Consistent with the previous analysis for Alternative 1, the sinking exercise activities are not part of Alternative 1 for this SEIS/OEIS. While the revised GOA Study Area now includes the Western Maneuver Area, in addition to the existing Temporary Maritime Activities Area (TMAA), the type and number of training events would not change, and the majority of training would still occur in the TMAA. Activities using active acoustics or explosives would not occur in the Western Maneuver Area. A mitigation area, referred to as the "Continental Shelf and Slope Mitigation Area," has been added to Alternative 1 in the TMAA, where the Navy would prohibit the use of explosives from the sea surface up to 10,000 feet altitude during training over the entire continental shelf and slope out to the 4,000 meter depth contour.

In this SEIS/OEIS, the Navy analyzed potential impacts on environmental resources resulting from activities under the No Action Alternative and Alternative 1. The resources evaluated include fishes, sea turtles, marine mammals, birds, and socioeconomic resources and environmental justice.

**Prepared by:** United States Department of the Navy  
**Point of Contact:** GOA SEIS/OEIS Project Manager  
1101 Tautog Circle, Silverdale, WA 98315-1101 | [projectmanager@goaeis.com](mailto:projectmanager@goaeis.com)