
Appendix F Public Participation

**Gulf of Alaska Navy Training Activities
Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/
Overseas Environmental Impact Statement**

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Appendix F Public Participation

This Appendix summarizes public involvement and stakeholder outreach activities conducted by the United States (U.S.) Department of the Navy (Navy) during the scoping, the public review and comment period for the 2020 Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS)/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (OEIS) for the Gulf of Alaska (GOA) Navy Training Activities, and the public review and comment period for the 2022 Supplement to the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS.

The purpose of public involvement and outreach during the public scoping period was to (1) notify and inform stakeholders and the public about the Proposed Action; and (2) provide opportunities for the public to comment on the scope of the analysis, including environmental issues and potential viable alternatives. The purpose of public involvement and outreach during the public review and comment period of the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS was to (1) notify and inform stakeholders and the public about the Proposed Action and the release of the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS, and (2) provide the opportunity for the public and other stakeholders to comment on the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS. The purpose of public involvement and outreach during the public review and comment period of the 2022 Supplement to the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS was to (1) notify and inform stakeholders and the public about a change in the Study Area, the addition of a new Continental Shelf and Slope Mitigation Area, and the release of the Supplement to the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS, and (2) provide the opportunity for the public and other stakeholders to comment on the Supplement to the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS.

Involvement and outreach efforts were conducted in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act and Navy guidance.

F.1 Project Website

A project website was established to provide the public with project, virtual public meeting, and commenting information, and to accept comments electronically. The project website address is www.goaeis.com and has been active since 2013.

The website address was included in all *Federal Register* notices. It was also included in newspaper advertisements, agency and Alaska Native federally recognized tribes notification letters, news releases, public service announcements, social media posts, and postcard mailers disseminated for the Notice of Intent and Notice of Availability.

Public notifications, fact sheet booklets, posters, maps, frequently asked questions, technical reports and reference documents, informational videos, and various other public involvement informational materials are available on the project website and made available throughout the course of the project. The website is periodically updated with project announcements, which are emailed to website subscribers.

F.2 Scoping Period

The public scoping period began with issuance of the Notice of Intent in the *Federal Register* February 10, 2020 (85 Federal Register 7538). The public scoping period ran from February 10, 2020, to March 11, 2020. The public was able to provide comments on the scope of the analysis by mail and through the project website. *Federal Register* notices can be found in Appendix D (Federal Register Notices).

F.2.1 Public Scoping Notifications

The Navy made significant efforts to notify the public to maximize public participation during the scoping process. A summary of these efforts follows.

F.2.1.1 Notification Letters

Tribal letters were mailed February 6, 2020, via priority mail to 24 tribal chairpersons, presidents, or chiefs of Alaska Native federally recognized tribes. Stakeholder letters were mailed first-class February 7, 2020, to 128 federal, state, and local elected officials and government agencies. Entities that received the scoping notification letters and other direct mailings, can be found in Table F-1. An example of a tribal letter can be found in Figure F-1, and an example of a stakeholder letter can be found in Figure F-2.

Table F-1: Entities that Received the Scoping Notification Letters and Other Direct Mailings

<i>Alaska Native Federally Recognized Tribes and Tribal Groups</i>	
Alutiiq Tribe of Old Harbor	Native Village of Tyonek
Kaguyak Village	Ninilchik Traditional Council
Kenaitze Indian Tribe (IRA)	Salamatof Tribe (Village of Salamatof)
Knik Tribe	Seldovia Village Tribe (IRA)
Native Village of Afognak	Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak
Native Village of Akhiok	Tangirnaq Native Village (Woody Island)
Native Village of Chenega	Yakutat Tlingit Tribe
Native Village of Eklutna (Eklutna Native Village)	Alutiiq Museum
Native Village of Eyak	Chugach Alaska Corporation
Native Village of Karluk	Chugachmiut, Inc.
Native Village of Larsen Bay	Cook Inlet Region, Inc.
Native Village of Nanwalek (English Bay)	Cook Inlet Tribal Council
Native Village of Ouzinkie	Goldbelt Inc.
Native Village of Port Graham	Kodiak Area Native Association
Native Village of Port Lions	Koniag, Inc.
Native Village of Tatitlek	Sealaska Corporation
<i>Federal Elected Officials and Federal Agencies</i>	
U.S. Senators (Alaska)	
U.S. Representatives (Alaska)	
Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge Federal Aviation Administration	
Alaska Region	
Northwest Mountain Region	
Marine Mammal Commission	
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	
National Marine Fisheries Service	
Alaska Fisheries Science Center	
Kodiak Laboratory	
Kasitsna Bay Lab	
Alaska Regional Office	
Habitat Conservation Division	
Protected Resources Division	
Sustainable Fisheries Division	
Office of Protected Resources	
Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle Conservation	
National Park Service	

Glacier Bay National Park & Preserve
North Pacific Fisheries Management Council
Office of Aviation Services
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Alaska District
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
Alaska Region
Chugach National Forest
U.S. Department of Commerce
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Bureau of Land Management
Alaska State Office
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
Anchorage Region
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Anchorage Operations Office
NEPA Compliance Division
Region 10
Environmental Review and Sediment Management Unit
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Alaska Region
Anchorage Field Office
Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge
U.S. Geological Survey
Alaska Science Center
Western Fisheries Research Center

State Elected Officials and State Agencies

Office of the Governor and Staff
Alaska State Representatives (Districts 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36)
Alaska State Senators (Districts A, B, C, D, F, G, K, L, N, O, P, Q, R, S)
Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development
Division of Community and Regional Affairs
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
Commissioner's Office
Division Administrative Services
Division of Air Quality
Division of Environmental Health
Division of Spill Prevention and Response
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Division of Commercial Fisheries
Division of Habitat
Division of Sport Fisheries
Fairbanks Office
Glennallen Office
Division of Subsistence
Division of Wildlife Conservation
Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs
Alaska Department of Natural Resources

Division of Forestry Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys Division of Mining Land and Water Anchorage Division of Oil and Gas Public Information Center Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities Alaska Marine Highway Division of Ports & Harbors North Region Fairbanks Statewide Aviation Kachemak Bay Conservation Society Regulatory Commission of Alaska
<i>Local Elected Officials and Local Agencies</i>
City and Borough of Juneau City of Cordova Fairbanks North Star Borough Kenai Peninsula Borough Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Kodiak Island Borough Matanuska-Susitna Borough Municipality of Anchorage



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

COMMANDER
UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
250 MAKALAPA DRIVE
PEARL HARBOR, HAWAII 96860-3131

IN REPLY REFER TO:
5090
Ser N465/0143
January 24, 2020

The Honorable Conrad Peterson
Alutiiq Tribe of Old Harbor
P.O. Box 62
Old Harbor, AK 99643

Dear President Peterson:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF INTENT TO PREPARE A SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT STATEMENT/OVERSEAS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
STATEMENT FOR GULF OF ALASKA NAVY TRAINING ACTIVITIES

In recognition of our government-to-government responsibilities, I am writing to inform you that the Department of the Navy (Navy) is preparing a supplement to the 2011 Gulf of Alaska (GOA) Navy Training Activities Final Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS), referred to as the 2011 GOA Final EIS/OEIS, and the 2016 GOA Navy Training Activities Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS, referred to as the 2016 GOA Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS. The Navy is proposing to continue periodic military readiness activities in the GOA. These activities include the use of active sound navigation and ranging, known as sonar, and weapon systems that may use non-explosive or explosive munitions at sea. These activities would be performed while employing marine species mitigation measures. The Navy is requesting your comments on the scope of the analysis, including potential environmental issues, cultural resources, tribal/Alaska Native issues, and viable alternatives to be considered during the development of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

The purpose of this Supplemental EIS/OEIS is to update the 2011 and 2016 impact analyses with new information and analytical methods the Navy developed and has used since 2016. New information includes an updated acoustic effects model, updated marine mammal density data, and evolving and emergent best available science. The Navy is not proposing new activities or an increase in activities from current levels. Proposed training activities are similar to those that have occurred in the GOA for decades and are consistent with those analyzed in the 2011 and 2016 impact analyses.

The Navy is preparing a Supplemental EIS/OEIS to renew required regulatory permits and authorizations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act. Current federal regulatory permits and authorizations expire in April 2022. This upcoming Supplemental EIS/OEIS will support naval training requirements to achieve and maintain fleet

Figure F-1: Tribal Scoping Notification Letter

5090
Ser N465/0143
January 24, 2020

readiness as required by Title 10 of the U.S. Code. The Navy will invite tribes to continue government-to-government consultation.

The Proposed Action's activities are the same as the actions presented in the 2011 GOA Final EIS/OEIS and the 2016 GOA Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS, which are to continue periodic military training activities within a Temporary Maritime Activities Area in the GOA (Enclosure 1). The Temporary Maritime Activities Area and Proposed Action, including the location, number, and frequency of major training exercises, remain unchanged from the 2016 impact analysis. In the Supplemental EIS/OEIS, the Navy will include the analysis of at-sea activities projected to meet readiness requirements beyond 2022 and into the reasonably foreseeable future, which reflects the most up-to-date compilation of training activities deemed necessary to accomplish military readiness.

The Navy will accept scoping comments throughout the comment period from Feb. 10, 2020, to March 11, 2020. All comments must be postmarked or received online by 11:59 p.m. Pacific Standard Time on **March 11, 2020**, for consideration in the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS. All comments submitted during the scoping period become part of the public record and substantive comments will be considered in the development of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

Comments may be submitted online at www.GOAEIS.com or by mail to:
Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest
Attention: GOA Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
1101 Tautog Circle, Suite 203
Silverdale, WA 98315-1101

If you would like additional project information, including details on the key differences between the 2016 GOA Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS and the upcoming Supplemental EIS/OEIS, please visit the project website at www.GOAEIS.com, or contact Ms. Kimberly Kler, GOA Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager, at kimberly.kler@navy.mil.

Please help the Navy inform the community about the intent to prepare a Supplemental EIS/OEIS for Navy training activities in the GOA by sharing this information with your staff and interested individuals.

Sincerely,

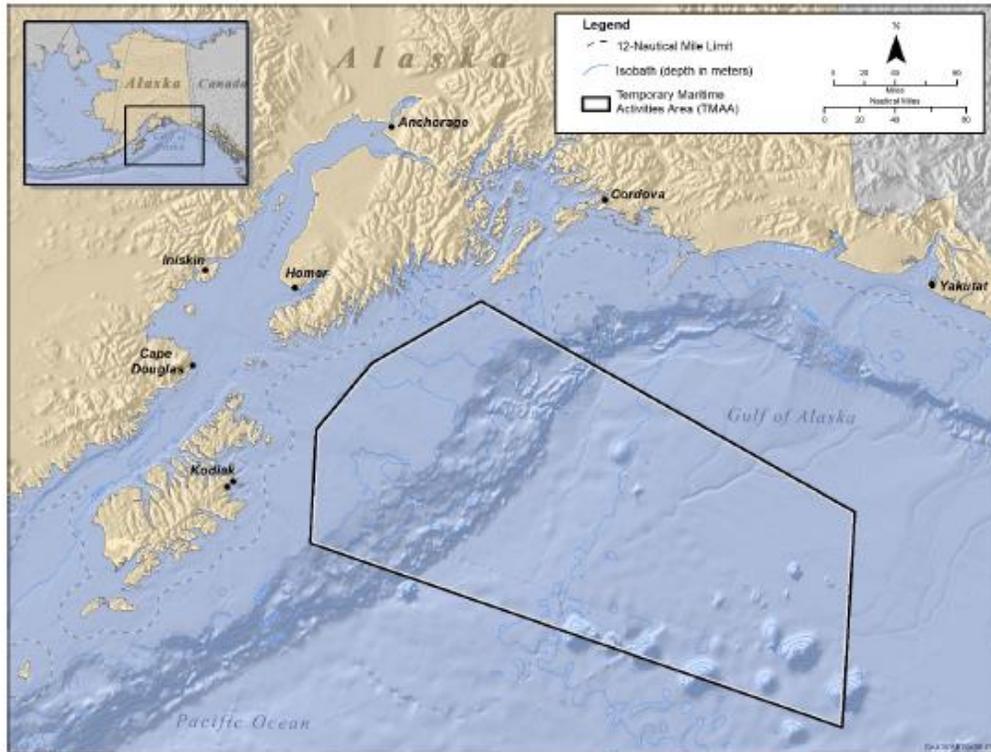


D. A. MCNAIR
Director, Environmental Readiness Division
By direction of the Commander

Enclosure: 1. GOA Navy Training Activities Supplemental EIS/OEIS Study Area

Figure F-1: Tribal Scoping Notification Letter (continued)

Enclosure 1: Gulf of Alaska Navy Training Activities Supplemental EIS/OEIS Study Area



Enclosure (1)

Figure F-1: Tribal Scoping Notification Letter (continued)



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDER
UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
250 MAKALAPA DRIVE
PEARL HARBOR, HAWAII 96860-3131

IN REPLY REFER TO:
5090
Ser N465/0142
January 24, 2020

Dear Sir or Madam:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF INTENT TO PREPARE A SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT STATEMENT/OVERSEAS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
STATEMENT FOR GULF OF ALASKA NAVY TRAINING

This letter is to inform you that the Department of the Navy (Navy) is preparing a supplement to the 2011 Gulf of Alaska (GOA) Navy Training Activities Final Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS), referred to as the 2011 GOA Final EIS/OEIS, and the 2016 GOA Navy Training Activities Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS, referred to as the 2016 GOA Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS. The Navy is proposing to continue periodic military readiness activities in the GOA. These activities include the use of active sound navigation and ranging, known as sonar, and weapon systems that may use non-explosive or explosive munitions at sea. These activities would be performed while employing marine species mitigation measures. The Navy welcomes your comments during the scoping period.

The purpose of this Supplemental EIS/OEIS is to update the 2011 and 2016 impact analyses with new information and analytical methods the Navy developed and has used since 2016. New information includes an updated acoustic effects model, updated marine mammal density data, and evolving and emergent best available science. The Navy is not proposing new activities or an increase in activities from current levels. Proposed training activities are similar to those that have occurred in the GOA for decades and are consistent with those analyzed in the 2011 and 2016 impact analyses.

The Navy is preparing a Supplemental EIS/OEIS to renew required regulatory permits and authorizations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act. Current federal regulatory permits and authorizations expire in April 2022. This upcoming Supplemental EIS/OEIS will support naval training requirements to achieve and maintain fleet readiness as required by Title 10 of the U.S. Code.

The Proposed Action's activities are the same as the actions presented in the 2011 GOA Final EIS/OEIS and the 2016 GOA Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS, which are to continue periodic military training activities within a Temporary Maritime Activities Area in the GOA (Enclosure 1). The Temporary Maritime Activities Area and Proposed Action, including the location, number, and frequency of major training exercises, remain unchanged from the

Figure F-2: Stakeholder Scoping Notification Letter

5090
Ser N465/0142
January 24, 2020

2016 impact analysis. In the Supplemental EIS/OEIS, the Navy will include the analysis of at-sea activities projected to meet readiness requirements beyond 2022 and into the reasonably foreseeable future, which reflects the most up-to-date compilation of training activities deemed necessary to accomplish military readiness.

The Navy will accept scoping comments throughout the public comment period from Feb. 10, 2020, to March 11, 2020. All comments must be postmarked or received online by 11:59 p.m. Pacific Standard Time on **March 11, 2020**, for consideration in the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS. All comments submitted during the scoping period will become part of the public record and substantive comments will be considered in the development of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

Comments may be submitted online at www.GOAEIS.com or by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest
Attention: GOA Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
1101 Tautog Circle, Suite 203
Silverdale, WA 98315-1101

If you would like additional project information, including details on the key differences between the 2016 GOA Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS and the upcoming Supplemental EIS/OEIS, please visit the project website at www.GOAEIS.com, or contact Ms. Kimberly Kler, GOA Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager, at kimberly.kler@navy.mil.

Please help the Navy inform the community about the intent to prepare a Supplemental EIS/OEIS for Navy training activities in the GOA by sharing this information with your staff and interested individuals.

Sincerely,

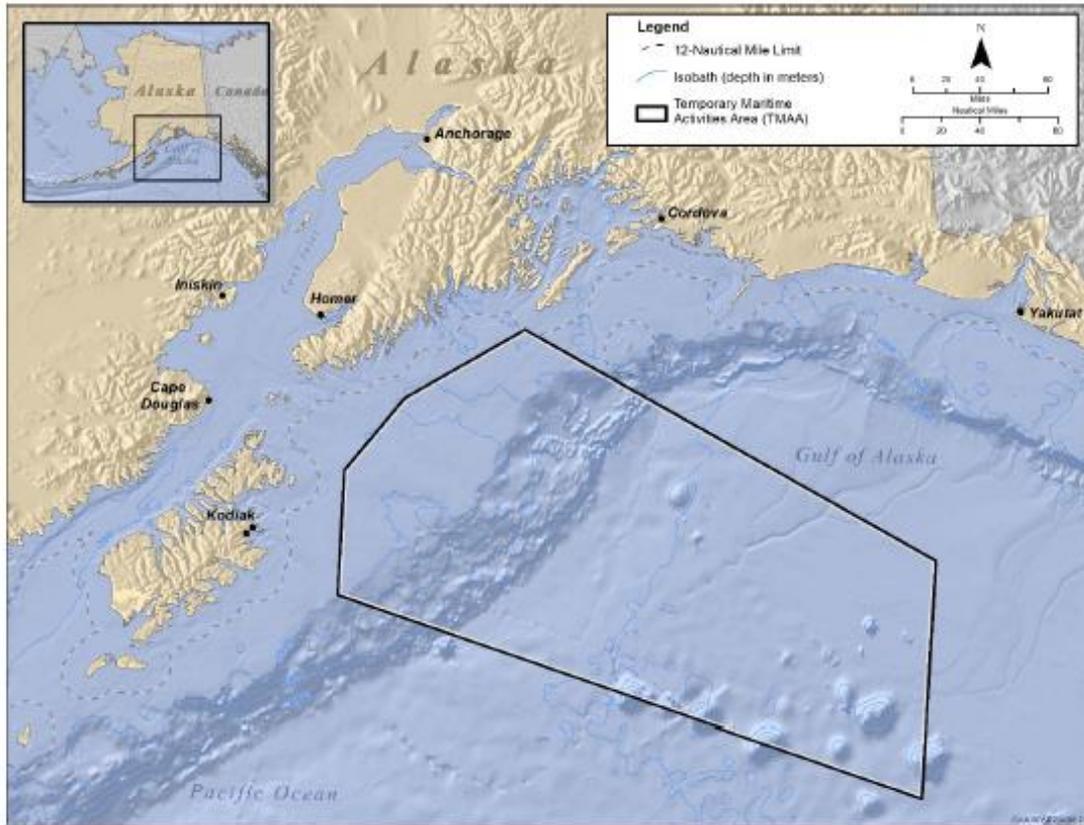


D. A. MCNAIR
Director, Environmental Readiness Division
By direction of the Commander

Enclosure: 1. GOA Navy Training Activities Supplemental EIS/OEIS Study Area

Figure F-2: Stakeholder Scoping Notification Letter (continued)

Enclosure 1: Gulf of Alaska Navy Training Activities Supplemental EIS/OEIS Study Area



Enclosure (1)

Figure F-2: Stakeholder Scoping Notification Letter (continued)

F.2.1.2 Postcard Mailers

A postcard was mailed first-class to 556 individuals, community groups, tribal staff, and nongovernmental organizations February 7, 2020. The postcard provided information about the Proposed Action, the website address, and how to submit public comments. An example of the postcard is shown in Figure F-3.

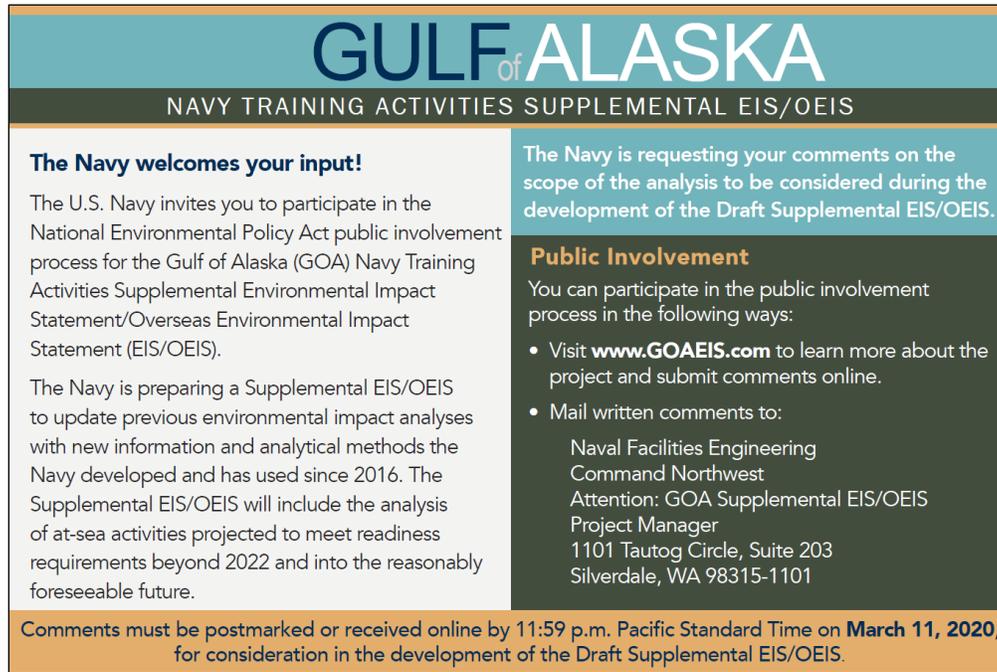


Figure F-3: Postcard Mailer for Scoping (Front)



Figure F-3: Postcard Mailer for Scoping (Back)

F.2.1.3 Newspaper Advertisements

Display advertisements were placed in local Alaskan newspapers to advertise the public’s opportunity to comment on the scope of the analysis. The advertisements included a description of the Proposed Action, the website address, the duration of the comment period, and information on how to provide comments. The newspapers and publication dates are shown in Table F-2. An example of the advertisement is shown in Figure F-4.

Table F-2: Newspaper Publications for Scoping

Newspaper	Newspaper Coverage	Publication Frequency	Publication Dates
<i>Anchorage Daily News</i>	Anchorage	Daily except Saturday	Monday, Feb. 10, 2020 Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2020 Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2020
<i>Cordova Times</i>	Cordova and Prince William Sound	Friday only	Friday, Feb. 14, 2020 Friday, Feb. 21, 2020 Friday, Feb. 28, 2020
<i>Juneau Empire</i>	Juneau and Southeastern Alaska	Tuesday–Friday and Sunday	Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2020 Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2020 Thursday, Feb. 13, 2020
<i>Kodiak Daily Mirror</i>	Kodiak	Monday–Friday	Monday, Feb. 10, 2020 Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2020 Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2020
<i>Peninsula Clarion</i>	Kenai-Soldotna Area	Tuesday–Friday and Sunday	Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2020 Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2020 Thursday, Feb. 13, 2020



**The U.S. Navy
INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE
in the Gulf of Alaska Navy Training Activities
Supplemental EIS/OEIS Scoping Process**

The U.S. Navy is preparing a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) to assess the potential environmental effects associated with continuing periodic military readiness activities within a specified area of the Gulf of Alaska beyond 2022 and into the reasonably foreseeable future.

Public Involvement Opportunity

The Navy is requesting your comments on the scope of the analysis to be considered during the development of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS. Comments will be accepted online at www.GOAEIS.com or by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest
Attention: GOA Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
1101 Tautog Circle, Suite 203
Silverdale, WA 98315-1101

**All comments must be postmarked or received online by
11:59 p.m. Pacific Standard Time on March 11, 2020,
for consideration in the development of the
Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS.**

Please visit www.GOAEIS.com for project information.

Figure F-4: Newspaper Announcement for Scoping

F.2.1.4 News Release

Commander, Navy Region Northwest Public Affairs Office distributed a news release to local and regional media outlets February 10, 2020. The news release provided information on the Proposed Action, the website address, and how to submit comments. The news release from the Commander, Navy Region Northwest is shown in Figure F-5.



COMMANDER, NAVY REGION NORTHWEST

Public Affairs Office
1100 Hunley Road, Silverdale, WA 98315-1100
Phone: 360-396-1630 Fax: 360-396-7127

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Release #20-0210

February 10, 2020

U.S. NAVY INVITES PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE GULF OF ALASKA NAVY TRAINING ACTIVITIES SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

SILVERDALE, Wash. – The U.S. Navy is inviting the public to participate in the development of a supplement to the Gulf of Alaska (GOA) Navy Training Activities Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS).

The Navy is preparing the Supplemental EIS/OEIS to renew required regulatory permits and authorizations required under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act. The current federal regulatory permits and authorizations required for military training activities in the Gulf of Alaska will expire in April 2022.

With this Supplemental EIS/OEIS, the Navy is not proposing any new training locations or an increase in the current levels of training activities in the Gulf of Alaska.

The Navy has trained periodically in the Gulf of Alaska for more than 30 years. This training is critical for the readiness of military personnel who protect and defend the United States and its allies.

In this Supplemental EIS, the Navy will analyze a Proposed Action where activities are the same as the actions presented in the 2011 GOA Final EIS/OEIS and the 2016 GOA Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS, which are to continue periodic military training activities in the Temporary Maritime Activities Area (TMAA) in the Gulf of Alaska.

Proposed activities include the continued use of active sonar and weapon systems that may use non-explosive or explosive munitions at sea in the Gulf of Alaska study area. The Navy will perform these activities while employing marine species mitigation measures.

The Navy will update previous environmental impact analyses with new information and analytical methods the Navy developed and has used since 2016, to include:

- Improved acoustic models, updated marine mammal densities, and updated marine species criteria and thresholds.
- The most current and best available science and analytical methods.

– more –

Figure F-5: Commander, Navy Region Northwest Scoping News Release

- A review of procedural mitigation measures, where appropriate, and consider additional geographic and/or temporal mitigation measures, where applicable.

The Navy welcomes public comments during the 30-day scoping period from **February 10, 2020 to March 11, 2020**, for consideration in the development of the Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

Government agencies, elected officials, community organizations and individuals are encouraged to submit comments on the scope, content or issues for consideration in the development of the Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

All comments must be postmarked or received online **by 11:59 p.m. Pacific Standard Time on March 11, 2020**, for consideration in the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS. Written comments may be submitted via the project website at www.GOAEIS.com or by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest
Attention: GOA Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
1101 Tautog Circle, Suite 203
Silverdale, WA 98315-1101

Since the Navy has engaged in both National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)-related public involvement and extensive outreach in Alaska on an ongoing basis, the Navy will not be holding public scoping meetings during the outreach period.

The Navy will hold open house public meetings after the release of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, which is tentatively scheduled for release in the winter of 2020.

Visit the project website at www.GOAEIS.com to learn more about the project, review prior NEPA-related documents, and submit comments.

Media seeking further information should contact Ms. Julianne Stanford with the Navy Region Northwest Public Affairs Office at 360-396-5393 or at julianne.stanford@navy.mil.

-2-

Figure F-5: Commander, Navy Region Northwest Scoping News Release (continued)

F.2.1.5 Website Subscriber Email Notification

Email subscribers from the 2016 GOA Final SEIS/OEIS were carried forward to start with 44 initial website subscribers. An email notification was sent to these 44 website subscribers February 10, 2020, announcing the Navy's intent to prepare an SEIS/OEIS. The website subscriber email notification is shown in Figure F-6. At the time the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS became available, the website had 48 subscribers.

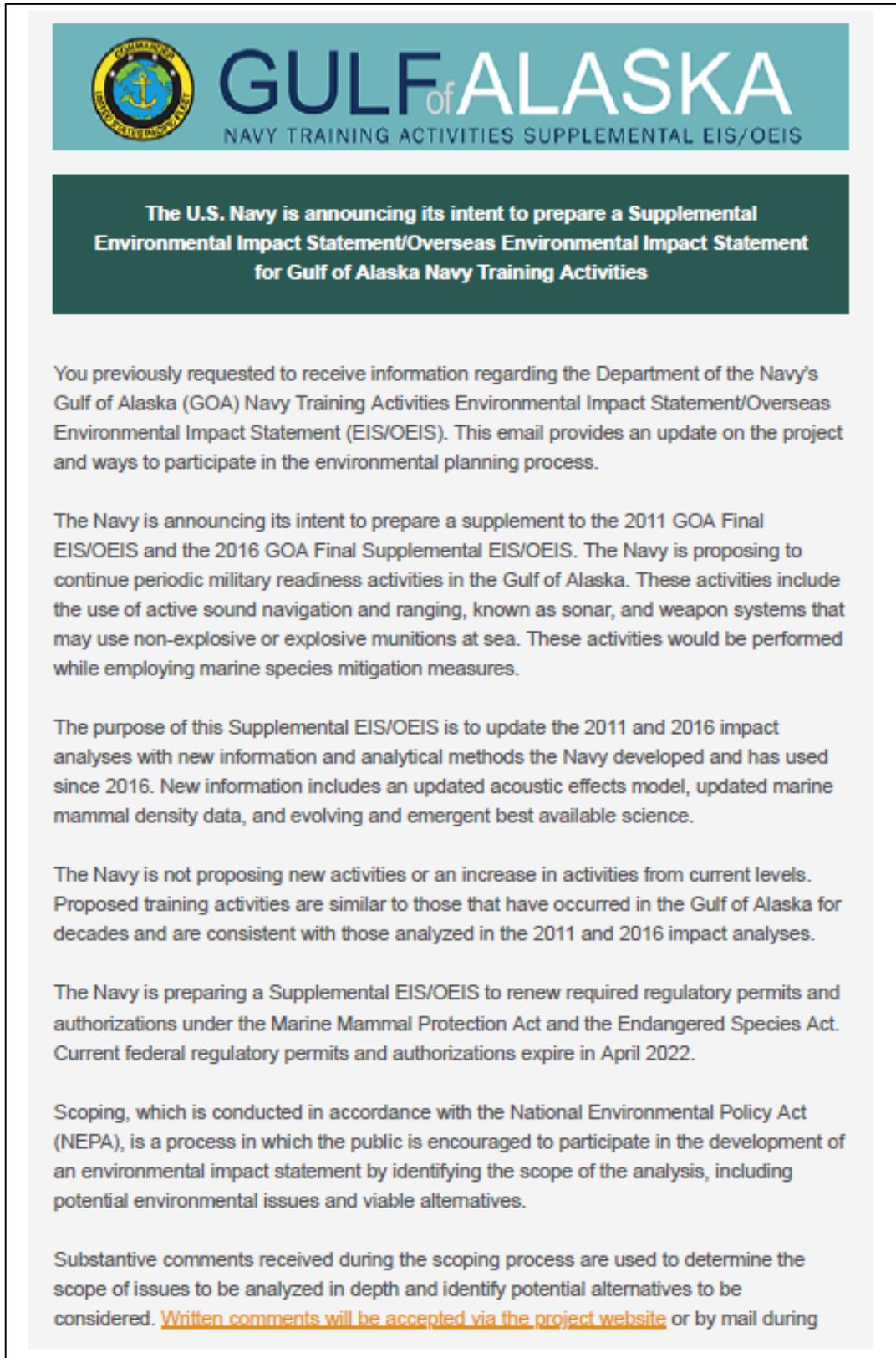


Figure F-6: Subscriber Email Notification for Scoping

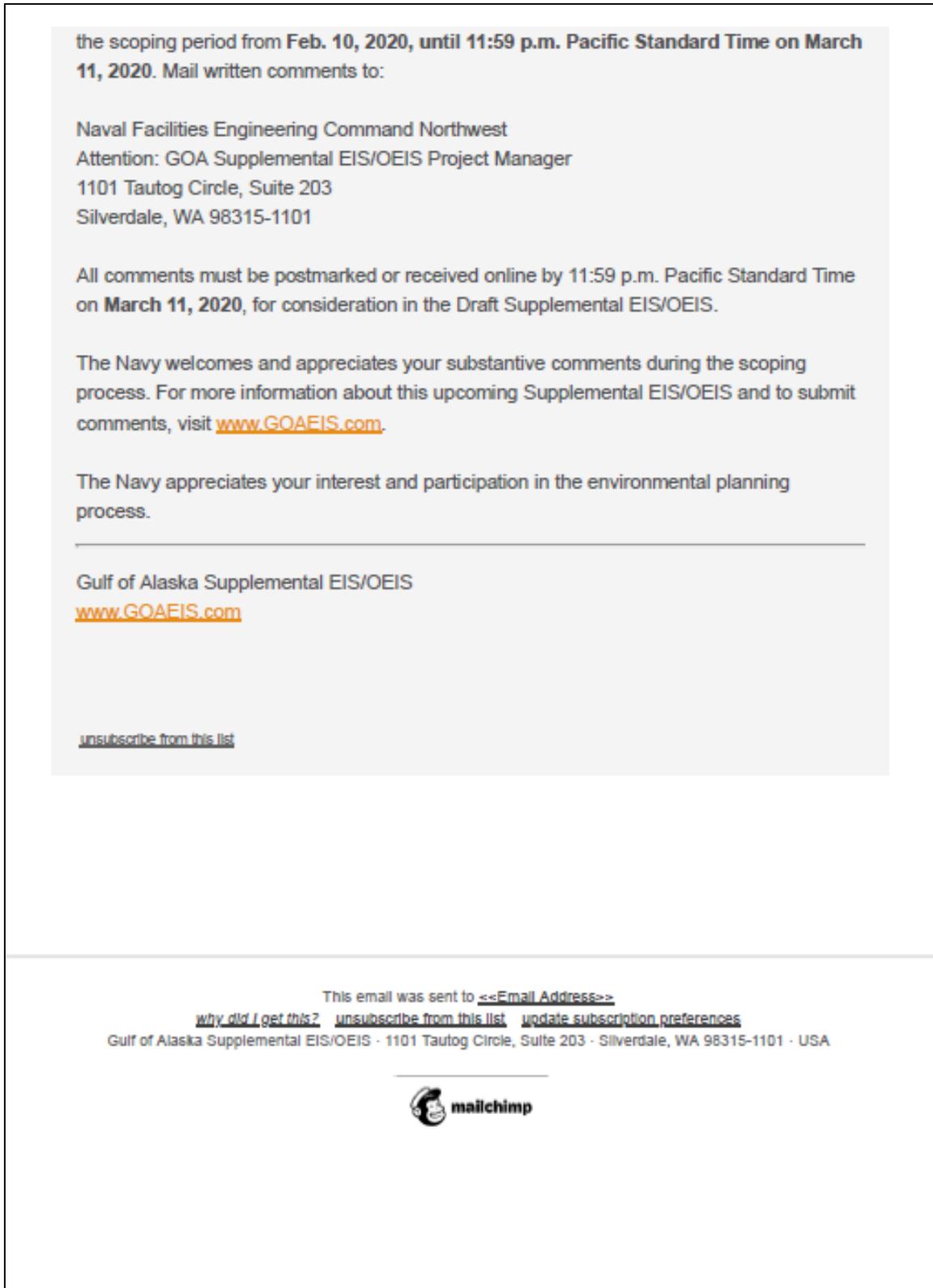


Figure F-6: Subscriber Email Notification for Scoping (continued)

F.2.2 Summary of Public Scoping Comments

Scoping comments were submitted in two ways:

- Written letters
- Electronically via the project website

The Navy received written and electronic comments from federal agencies, state agencies, Alaska Native federally recognized tribes, nongovernmental organizations, individuals, and community groups. A total of 25 comments were received, including 22 website comments (submitted using the electronic comment form on the project website) and 3 mailed comments.

F.2.3 Expanded Scoping Public Outreach

Navy personnel conducted expanded outreach with stakeholders and the public at four Alaska public events prior to and during the scoping period: Post Northern Edge, the Alaska Federation of Natives Convention, the Alaska Marine Science Symposium, and the Alaska Forum on the Environment Convention. Expanded outreach continued throughout the development of this SEIS/OEIS to ensure stakeholders were informed. Outreach events are shown in Table F-3.

Table F-3: Expanded Scoping Public Outreach in Alaska

Stakeholders	Conducted By	Format of Outreach	Date
Post Northern Edge	CNRNW Flag Officer U.S. Pacific Fleet	Coastal community meetings with ship tours and band events	Sep. 11–20, 2019
Alaska Federation of Natives Convention	U.S. Pacific Fleet NAVFAC Northwest	Stewards of the Sea Outreach booth	Oct. 17–19, 2019
Alaska Marine Science Symposium	U.S. Pacific Fleet NAVFAC Northwest	Stewards of the Sea Outreach booth	Jan. 27–28, 2020
Alaska Forum on the Environment Convention	U.S. Pacific Fleet NAVFAC Northwest	Stewards of the Sea Outreach booth; public presentation during Military Training in Alaska panel	Feb. 10–14, 2020

Notes: CNRNW = Commander, Navy Region Northwest; U.S. = United States; NAVFAC = Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command.

F.3 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement Public Review and Comment Period

The 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS public review and comment period began with the issuance of the Notice of Availability (85 Federal Register 80093) and the Notice of Virtual Public Meetings (85 Federal Register 80076) in the *Federal Register* December 11, 2020. The 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS public review and comment period ran from December 11, 2020, to February 16, 2021. The *Federal Register* notices included notification of the availability of the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS and where it could be accessed; an overview of the Proposed Action and its purpose and need; public commenting information; and virtual public meeting information, including how to submit questions. The public was able to provide comments on the Proposed Action and 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS environmental analysis by mail and through the project website. *Federal Register* notices can be found in Appendix D (Federal Register Notices). Public comments received and responses to comments can be found in Appendix G (Public Comments and Responses).

F.3.1 Notifications for the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement and Virtual Public Meetings

Notification materials on the availability of the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS provided details on the comment period, virtual public meetings, instructions on how to submit a question for discussion with Navy representatives at the virtual public meetings, and commenting methods. A summary of these notification efforts follows.

F.3.1.1 Notification Letters

Stakeholder letters, including a fact sheet booklet enclosure, were mailed first-class December 14, 2020, to 181 federal, state, and local elected officials and government agencies. Tribal letters, including enclosures of a fact sheet booklet and a CD-ROM of all volumes of the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS, were mailed December 16, 2020, via certified mail to 24 tribal chairpersons, presidents, or chiefs of Alaska Native federally recognized tribes. Entities that received the notification letters and other direct mailings are shown in Table F-4. An example of a tribal letter can be found in Figure F-7, and an example of a stakeholder letter can be found in Figure F-8.

Table F-4: Entities that Received the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability and Virtual Public Meetings Notification Letters and Other Direct Mailings

<i>Alaska Native Federally Recognized Tribes and Tribal Groups</i>	
Alutiiq Tribe of Old Harbor	Seldovia Village Tribe (IRA)
Kaguyak Village	Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak
Kenaitze Indian Tribe (IRA)	Tangirnaq Native Village (Woody Island)
Knik Tribe	Yakutat Tlingit Tribe
Native Village of Afognak	Afognak Native Corporation
Native Village of Akhiok	Alutiiq Museum
Native Village of Chenega	Chugach Alaska Corporation
Native Village of Eklutna (Eklutna Native Village)	Chugachmiut, Inc.
Native Village of Eyak	Cook Inlet Region, Inc.
Native Village of Karluk	Cook Inlet Tribal Council
Native Village of Larsen Bay	Goldbelt Inc.
Native Village of Nanwalek (English Bay)	Kodiak Area Native Association
Native Village of Ouzinkie	Koniag, Inc.
Native Village of Port Graham	Lesnoi, Inc.
Native Village of Port Lions	Natives of Kodiak, Inc.
Native Village of Tatitlek	Ninilchik Native Associations, Inc.
Native Village of Tyonek	Qutekcak Tribe
Ninilchik Traditional Council	Sealaska Corporation
Salamatof Tribe (Village of Salamatof)	

Federal Elected Officials and Federal Agencies

U.S. Senators (Alaska)
U.S. Representatives (Alaska)
Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge Federal Aviation Administration
 Alaska Region
 Northwest Mountain Region
Marine Mammal Commission
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
 National Marine Fisheries Service
 Alaska Fisheries Science Center
 Kodiak Laboratory
 Kasitsna Bay Lab
 Alaska Regional Office
 Habitat Conservation Division
 Protected Resources Division
 Sustainable Fisheries Division
 Office of Protected Resources
 Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle Conservation
National Park Service
 Glacier Bay National Park & Preserve
North Pacific Fisheries Management Council
Office of Aviation Services
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
 Alaska District
U.S. Department of Agriculture
 Forest Service
 Alaska Region
 Chugach National Forest
U.S. Department of Commerce
U.S. Department of the Interior
 Bureau of Indian Affairs
 Bureau of Land Management
 Alaska State Office
 Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
 Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
 Anchorage Region
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
 Anchorage Operations Office
 NEPA Compliance Division
 Region 10
 Environmental Review and Sediment Management Unit
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 Alaska Region
 Anchorage Field Office
 Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge
U.S. Geological Survey
 Alaska Science Center
 Western Fisheries Research Center

State Elected Officials and State Agencies

Office of the Governor and Staff
Alaska State Representatives (Districts 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36)
Alaska State Senators (Districts A, B, C, D, F, G, K, L, N, O, P, Q, R, S)
Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development
 Division of Community and Regional Affairs
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
 Commissioner's Office
 Division Administrative Services
 Division of Air Quality
 Division of Environmental Health
 Division of Spill Prevention and Response Alaska Department of Fish and Game
 Division of Commercial Fisheries
 Division of Habitat
 Division of Sport Fisheries
 Fairbanks Office
 Glennallen Office
 Division of Subsistence
 Division of Wildlife Conservation
Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
 Division of Forestry
 Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation
 Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys
 Division of Mining Land and Water Anchorage
 Division of Oil and Gas
 Public Information Center
Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities
 North Region Fairbanks
 Statewide Aviation
Regulatory Commission of Alaska

Local Elected Officials and Local Agencies

City and Borough of Juneau
City of Cordova
City of Homer
City of Kodiak
City of Seward
Fairbanks North Star Borough
Kenai Peninsula Borough
Kenai Peninsula Borough School District
Kodiak Island Borough
Matanuska-Susitna Borough
Municipality of Anchorage



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

COMMANDER
UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
250 MAKALAPA DRIVE
PEARL HARBOR, HAWAII 96860-3131

IN REPLY REFER TO:
5090
Ser N46B/1357
December 2, 2020

The Honorable Conrad Peterson
Alutiiq Tribe of Old Harbor
P.O. Box 62
Old Harbor, AK 99643

Dear President Peterson:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE GULF OF ALASKA NAVY TRAINING
ACTIVITIES DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
STATEMENT/OVERSEAS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

In recognition of our government-to-government responsibilities, I am writing to inform you that the Department of the Navy (Navy) has prepared a draft supplement to the 2011 Gulf of Alaska (GOA) Navy Training Activities Final Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) (referred to as the 2011 GOA Final EIS/OEIS) and the 2016 GOA Navy Training Activities Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS (referred to as the 2016 GOA Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS). In the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, the Navy assesses the potential environmental effects associated with continuing periodic military readiness activities in the GOA Temporary Maritime Activities Area (TMAA) (Enclosure 1). These activities include the use of active sound navigation and ranging, known as sonar, and weapon systems that may use non-explosive or explosive munitions at sea. The Navy would continue to implement mitigation measures to avoid or reduce potential impacts on marine species and the environment from training activities. The Navy is requesting your comments on the analysis, including potential environmental issues, cultural resource concerns, and tribal/Alaska Native issues.

The Navy understands the challenging times our world and nation face with the COVID-19 pandemic, and the impact it has had on our governments and communities. It is times like these that the readiness of our military forces becomes even more critical. Our service members need to be prepared for a wide range of potential situations, from combat to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

The Navy's Proposed Action is to continue periodic military training activities within the GOA TMAA. Proposed training activities are similar to those that have occurred in the GOA TMAA for decades. The geographic extent of the GOA TMAA and Proposed Action, including the location, number, and frequency of major training exercises, remain unchanged from the 2016 GOA Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS. Although the types of activities and number of events in the Proposed Action are the same as in previous documents (Alternative 1 in both the 2011

Figure F-7: Tribal Notification Letter for the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability and Virtual Public Meetings

5090
Ser N46B/1357
December 2, 2020

and 2016 impact analyses), there have been changes in the platforms and systems used in those activities. For example, the EA-6B aircraft and frigate, and their associated systems, have been replaced by the EA-18G aircraft, Littoral Combat Ship, and Destroyer. The Supplemental EIS/OEIS includes the analysis of at-sea training activities projected to meet readiness requirements beyond 2022 and into the reasonably foreseeable future, and reflects the most up-to-date compilation of training activities deemed necessary to accomplish military readiness during that time period.

The Navy is preparing a Supplemental EIS/OEIS to renew required federal regulatory permits and authorizations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act. Current federal regulatory permits and authorizations expire in April 2022. The Supplemental EIS/OEIS supports naval training requirements to achieve and maintain fleet readiness as required by Title 10 of the U.S. Code. In the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, the Navy has updated the 2011 and 2016 impact analyses with new information and analytical methods the Navy developed and has used since 2016. New information includes an updated acoustic effects model, updated marine mammal density data and sea turtle hearing criteria, and other emergent best available science. In those analyses, the Navy concluded submerged cultural resources would not be impacted because of the type of training activities and the low density of submerged cultural resources within the area of effect.

Due to COVID-19 conditions, including travel and public event restrictions, the Navy has included a CD-ROM of the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS and project fact sheet booklet in this mailing (Enclosures 2 and 3), and is holding virtual public meetings, consisting of a presentation and question and answer session, to discuss the Proposed Action and the draft environmental impact analysis. Visit www.GOAEIS.com/VPM to learn more about and attend a virtual public meeting. An audio-only option will also be available.

Tuesday, January 19, 2021
3 to 4 p.m. Alaska Standard Time

Wednesday, February 3, 2021
5 to 6 p.m. Alaska Standard Time

Substantive questions for discussion with Navy representatives at the virtual public meetings can be submitted between January 11 and 18 for the January 19 meeting, and between January 26 and February 2 for the February 3 meeting. Email questions to projectmanager@goaeis.com or complete the form at www.GOAEIS.com.

The Navy will accept comments throughout the public comment period from December 11, 2020, to February 16, 2021. To be considered in the development of the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS, all comments must be postmarked or received online by 11:59 p.m. Pacific Standard Time **February 16, 2021**. All comments submitted during the comment period will become part of the public record, and substantive comments will be addressed in the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

Figure F-7: Tribal Notification Letter for the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability and Virtual Public Meetings (continued)

5090
Ser N46B/1357
December 2, 2020

Comments may be submitted online at www.GOAEIS.com or by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest
Attention: GOA Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
1101 Tautog Circle, Suite 203
Silverdale, WA 98315-1101

If you would like additional information about the project or need assistance attending the virtual public meetings, please contact Ms. Kimberly Kler, GOA Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager, at projectmanager@goaeis.com.

Please help the Navy inform the community about the availability of the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS and virtual public meetings by sharing this information with your staff and interested individuals.

Sincerely,



A. K. HUTCHISON
Captain, U.S. Navy
By direction of the Commander

- Enclosure:
1. Gulf of Alaska Navy Training Activities Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement Study Area
 2. Gulf of Alaska Navy Training Activities Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (CD-ROM)
 3. Project fact sheet booklet

Figure F-7: Tribal Notification Letter for the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability and Virtual Public Meetings (continued)

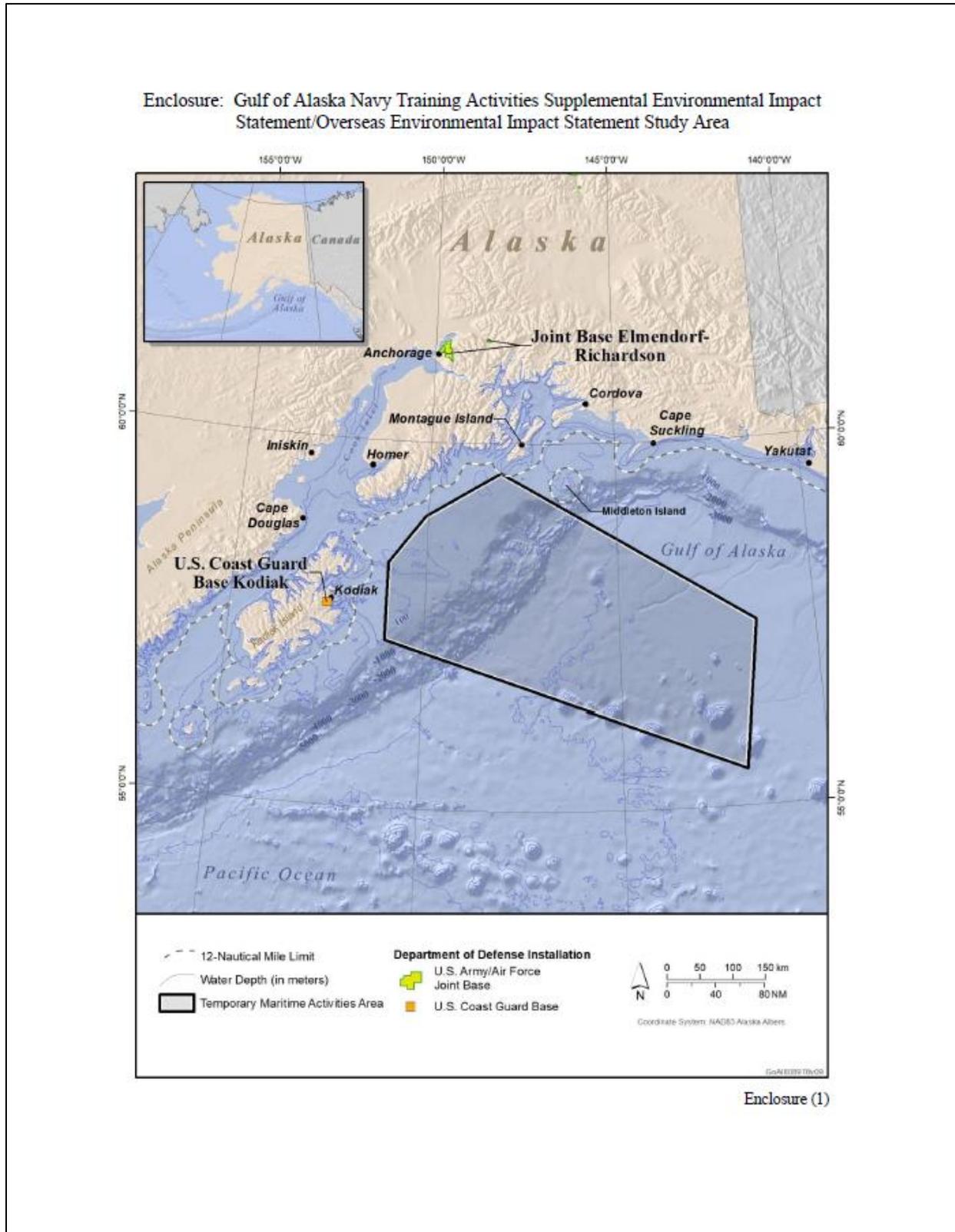


Figure F-7: Tribal Notification Letter for the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability and Virtual Public Meetings (continued)



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDER
UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
250 MAKALAPA DRIVE
PEARL HARBOR, HAWAII 96860-3131

IN REPLY REFER TO:
5090
Ser N46B/1356
December 2, 2020

Dear Sir or Madam:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE GULF OF ALASKA NAVY TRAINING
ACTIVITIES DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
STATEMENT/OVERSEAS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

This letter is to inform you that the Department of the Navy (Navy) has prepared a draft supplement to the 2011 Gulf of Alaska (GOA) Navy Training Activities Final Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) (referred to as the 2011 GOA Final EIS/OEIS) and the 2016 GOA Navy Training Activities Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS (referred to as the 2016 GOA Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS). In the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, the Navy assesses the potential environmental effects associated with continuing periodic military readiness activities in the GOA Temporary Maritime Activities Area (TMAA) (Enclosure 1). These activities include the use of active sound navigation and ranging, known as sonar, and weapon systems that may use non-explosive or explosive munitions at sea. The Navy would continue to implement mitigation measures to avoid or reduce potential impacts on marine species and the environment from training activities. The Navy welcomes your review and comments on the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

The Navy understands the challenging times our world and nation face with the COVID-19 pandemic, and the impact it has had on our governments and communities. It is times like these that the readiness of our military forces becomes even more critical. Our service members need to be prepared for a wide range of potential situations, from combat to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

The Navy's Proposed Action is to continue periodic military training activities within the GOA TMAA. Proposed training activities are similar to those that have occurred in the GOA TMAA for decades. The geographic extent of the GOA TMAA and Proposed Action, including the location, number, and frequency of major training exercises, remain unchanged from the 2016 GOA Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS. Although the types of activities and number of events in the Proposed Action are the same as in previous documents (Alternative 1 in both the 2011 and 2016 impact analyses), there have been changes in the platforms and systems used in those activities. For example, the EA-6B aircraft and frigate, and their associated systems, have been replaced by the EA-18G aircraft, Littoral Combat Ship, and Destroyer. The Supplemental EIS/OEIS includes the analysis of at-sea training activities projected to meet readiness requirements beyond 2022 and into the reasonably foreseeable future, and reflects the most up-to-date compilation of training activities deemed necessary to accomplish military readiness during that time period.

Figure F-8: Stakeholder Notification Letter for the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability and Virtual Public Meetings

5090
Ser N46B/1356
December 2, 2020

The Navy is preparing a Supplemental EIS/OEIS to renew required federal regulatory permits and authorizations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act. Current federal regulatory permits and authorizations expire in April 2022. The Supplemental EIS/OEIS supports naval training requirements to achieve and maintain fleet readiness as required by Title 10 of the U.S. Code. In the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, the Navy has updated the 2011 and 2016 impact analyses with new information and analytical methods the Navy developed and has used since 2016. New information includes an updated acoustic effects model, updated marine mammal density data and sea turtle hearing criteria, and other emergent best available science.

Due to COVID-19 conditions, including travel and public event restrictions, the Navy has included a project fact sheet booklet in this mailing (Enclosure 2) and is holding virtual public meetings, consisting of a presentation and question and answer session, to discuss the Proposed Action and the draft environmental impact analysis. Visit www.GOAEIS.com/VPM to learn more about and attend a virtual public meeting. An audio-only option will also be available.

Tuesday, January 19, 2021
3 to 4 p.m. Alaska Standard Time

Wednesday, February 3, 2021
5 to 6 p.m. Alaska Standard Time

Substantive questions for discussion with Navy representatives at the virtual public meetings can be submitted between January 11 and 18 for the January 19 meeting, and between January 26 and February 2 for the February 3 meeting. Email questions to projectmanager@goaeis.com or complete the form at www.GOAEIS.com.

The Navy is committed to providing the public an accessible version of the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS during COVID-19 conditions. The document will be available on the project website www.GOAEIS.com beginning December 11, 2020. If you need assistance accessing the document or attending the virtual public meetings, please contact Ms. Julianne Stanford, Navy Region Northwest Public Affairs Office, at julianne.stanford@navy.mil or 360-867-8525. For all other queries or if you require additional information about the project, please contact Ms. Kimberly Kler, GOA Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager, at projectmanager@goaeis.com.

The Navy will accept comments throughout the public comment period from December 11, 2020, to February 16, 2021. To be considered in the development of the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS, all comments must be postmarked or received online by 11:59 p.m. Pacific Standard Time **February 16, 2021**. All comments submitted during the comment period will become part of the public record, and substantive comments will be addressed in the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

Figure F-8: Stakeholder Notification Letter for the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability and Virtual Public Meetings (continued)

5090
Ser N46B/1356
December 2, 2020

Comments may be submitted online at www.GOAEIS.com or by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest
Attention: GOA Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
1101 Tautog Circle, Suite 203
Silverdale, WA 98315-1101

Please help the Navy inform the community about the availability of the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS and virtual public meetings by sharing this information with your staff and interested individuals.

Sincerely,

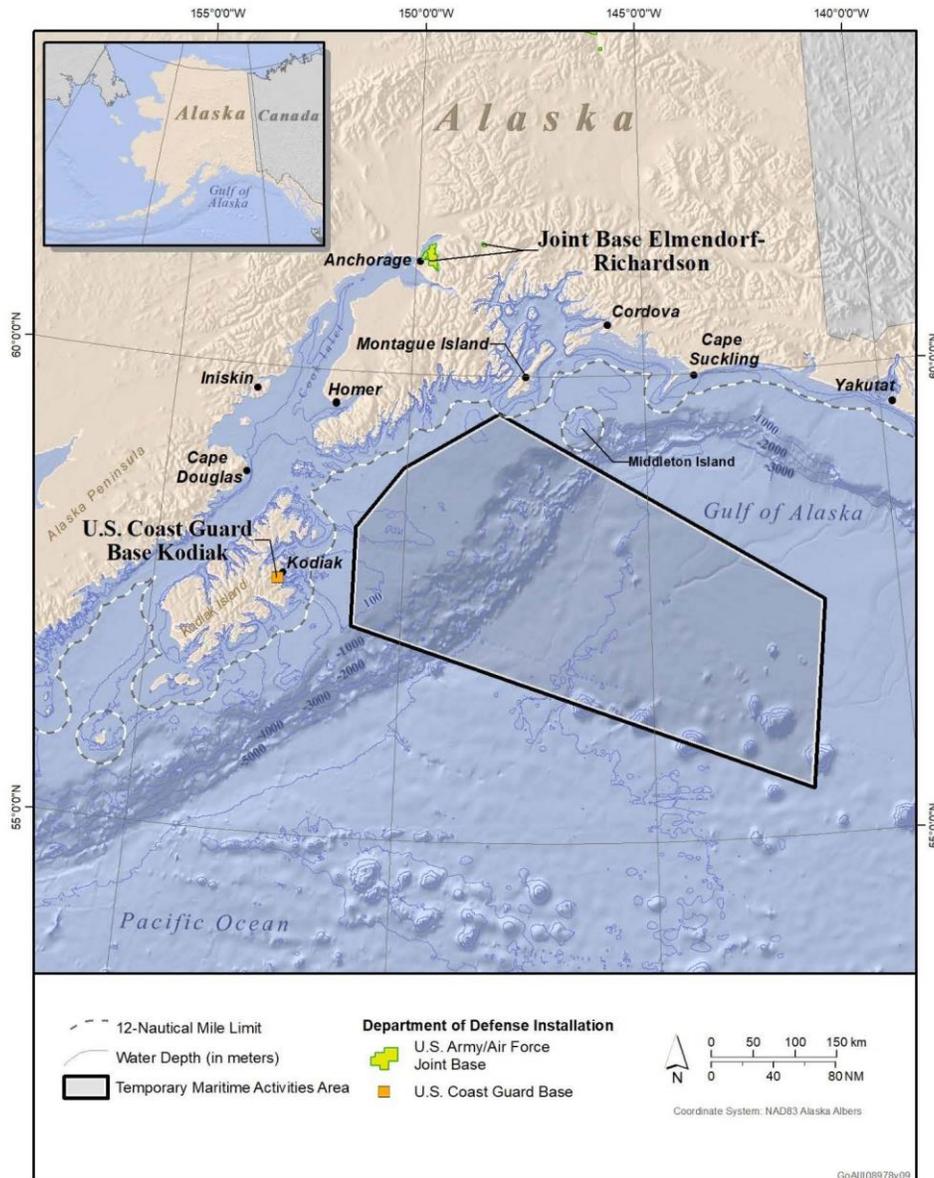


A. K. HUTCHISON
Captain, U.S. Navy
By direction of the Commander

- Enclosure: 1. GOA Navy Training Activities Supplemental EIS/OEIS Study Area
2. Project fact sheet booklet

Figure F-8: Stakeholder Notification Letter for the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability and Virtual Public Meetings (continued)

Enclosure 1: Gulf of Alaska Navy Training Activities Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement Study Area



Enclosure (1)

Figure F-8: Stakeholder Notification Letter for the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability and Virtual Public Meetings (continued)

F.3.1.2 Postcard Mailers

Postcard mailers were mailed first-class to 524 individuals, community and business groups, tribal staff, and nongovernmental organizations on December 10, 2020. The postcard provided information about the Proposed Action, virtual public meetings and how to submit questions, how to submit public comments, and the website address. An example of the postcard mailer is shown in Figure F-9.

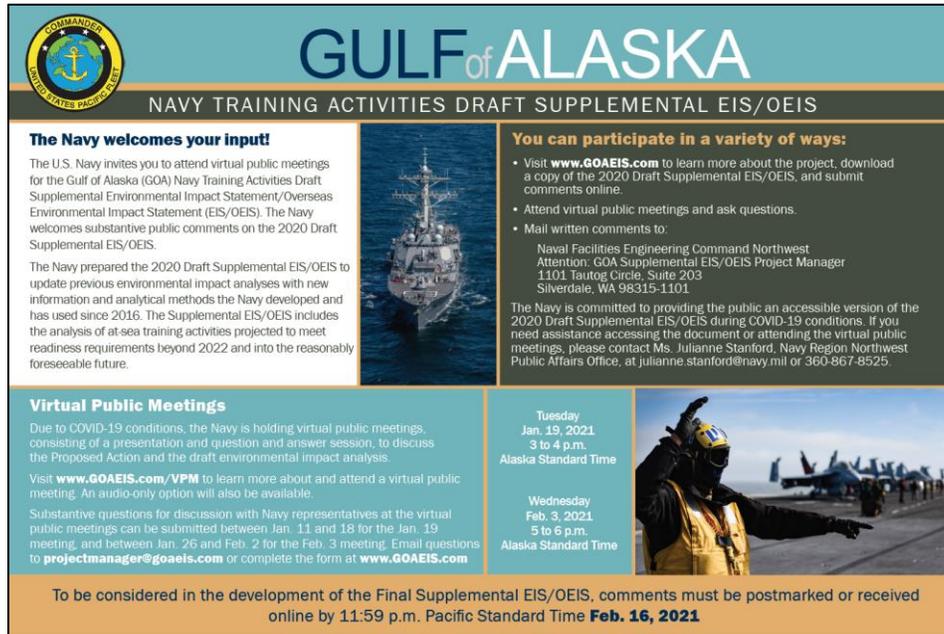


Figure F-9: Postcard Mailer for the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability and Virtual Public Meetings (Front)

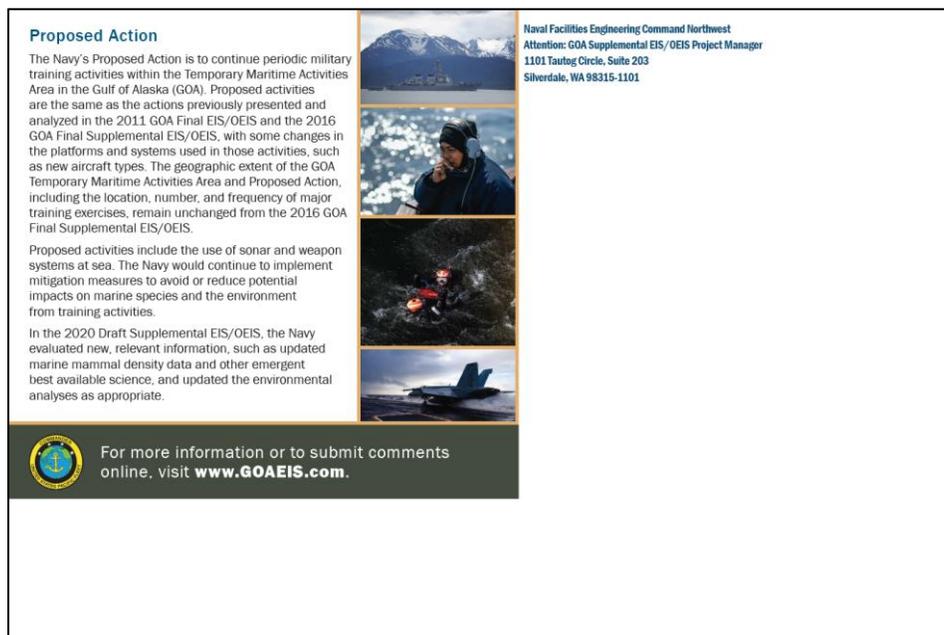


Figure F-9: Postcard Mailer for the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability and Virtual Public Meetings (Back)

F.3.1.3 Newspaper Advertisements

Display advertisements were placed in five local Alaskan newspapers to advertise the notice of availability of the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS, the virtual public meetings, and the public review and comment period. The advertisements included a brief description of the Proposed Action; the virtual public meeting dates and times, including when and how to submit a question; the project website address; the duration of the comment period; and information on how to provide comments. The newspapers and publication dates are listed in Table F-5. An example of the advertisement is shown in Figure F-10.

Table F-5: Newspaper Publications for the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability and Virtual Public Meetings

<u>Newspaper</u>	<u>Regional Coverage and Publication Frequency</u>	<u>Advertisement Publication Dates</u>
<i>Anchorage Daily News</i>	Anchorage, Alaska Daily except Saturday	Friday, Dec. 11, 2020 Monday, Jan. 4, 2021 Friday, Jan. 15, 2021 Sunday, Jan. 17, 2021 Monday, Jan. 18, 2021
<i>Juneau Empire</i> (<i>Sound Publishing</i>)	Juneau, Alaska, Southeastern Alaska Tuesday–Friday and Sunday	Friday, Dec. 11, 2020 Sunday, Jan. 3, 2021 Thursday, Jan. 14, 2021 Friday, Jan. 15, 2021 Sunday, Jan. 17, 2021
<i>Kodiak Daily Mirror</i>	Kodiak, Alaska Monday–Friday only	Friday, Dec. 11, 2020 Monday, Jan. 4, 2021 Thursday, Jan. 14, 2021 Friday, Jan. 15, 2021 Monday, Jan. 18, 2021
<i>Peninsula Clarion</i> (<i>Sound Publishing</i>)	Kenai-Soldotna Area Alaska Tuesday–Friday and Sunday	Friday, Dec. 11, 2020 Sunday, Jan. 3, 2021 Thursday, Jan. 14, 2021 Friday, Jan. 15, 2021 Sunday, Jan. 17, 2021
<i>Cordova Times</i>	Cordova and Prince William Sound Alaska Fridays only	Friday, Dec. 11, 2020 Friday, Jan. 8, 2021 Friday, Jan. 15, 2021 Friday, Jan. 22, 2021 Friday, Jan. 29, 2021



**The U.S. Navy
INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE
in the Gulf of Alaska Navy Training Activities
Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS Public Involvement Process**

The U.S. Navy has prepared a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) to assess the potential environmental effects associated with continuing periodic military readiness activities within a specified area of the Gulf of Alaska beyond 2022 and into the reasonably foreseeable future. The document will be available beginning Dec. 11, 2020, at www.GOAEIS.com.

Public Involvement

The Navy welcomes substantive comments on the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS. Comments may be submitted online at www.GOAEIS.com or by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest
Attention: GOA Supplemental EIS/OEIS
Project Manager
1101 Tautog Circle, Suite 203
Silverdale, WA 98315-1101

To be considered in the development of the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS, comments must be postmarked or received online by 11:59 p.m. Pacific Standard Time Feb. 16, 2021.

Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS

The Navy is committed to providing the public an accessible version of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS during COVID-19 conditions. View the document at www.GOAEIS.com.

If you need assistance accessing the document or attending the virtual public meetings, please contact Ms. Julianne Stanford, Navy Region Northwest Public Affairs Office, at julianne.stanford@navy.mil or 360-867-8525.

Virtual Public Meetings

Due to COVID-19 conditions, the Navy is holding virtual public meetings, consisting of a presentation and question and answer session, to discuss the Proposed Action and the draft environmental impact analysis.

Visit www.GOAEIS.com/VPM to learn more about and attend a virtual public meeting. An audio-only option will also be available.

Substantive questions for discussion with Navy representatives at the virtual public meetings can be submitted one week in advance by emailing projectmanager@goaeis.com or completing the form at www.GOAEIS.com.

Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2021
3 to 4 p.m. Alaska Standard Time
Submit questions from Jan. 11-18

Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2021
5 to 6 p.m. Alaska Standard Time
Submit questions from Jan. 26-Feb. 2

Figure F-10: Newspaper Advertisement for the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability and Virtual Public Meetings

F.3.1.4 Media Outreach and Social Media Notices

Commander, Navy Region Northwest Public Affairs Office distributed a news release and public service announcement to local, regional, and national print and broadcast (radio and television) media and congressional staffers December 11, 2020. The news release and public service announcements were redistributed January 14, 2021, and February 2, 2021, prior to the virtual public meetings. A Facebook post was published December 11, 2020, and January 14, 2021, on the Commander, Navy Region Northwest and U.S. Pacific Fleet Facebook pages. The Facebook post was published again February 2, 2021, on the Commander, Navy Region Northwest Facebook page. The news releases provided information on the Proposed Action, virtual public meetings and how to submit questions, project website address, and how to submit comments. The public service announcement provided information on the virtual public meetings' dates and times, how to submit questions and comments, and the project website address. The Facebook posts provided information on the Proposed Action, virtual public meetings and how to submit questions, and the project website address. Examples of the news releases are shown in Figure F-11 and Figure F-12, an example of the public service announcement is shown in Figure F-13, and examples of the Facebook posts are shown in Figure F-14 and Figure F-15.



COMMANDER, NAVY REGION NORTHWEST

Public Affairs Office
1100 Hunley Road, Silverdale, WA 98315-1100
Phone: (360) 867-8525 Fax: (360) 396-7127

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Release #20-1211

Dec. 11, 2020

**GULF OF ALASKA NAVY TRAINING ACTIVITIES DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/OVERSEAS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT;
NAVY TO HOLD VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETINGS**

SILVERDALE, Wash — The U.S. Navy has prepared a draft supplement to the 2011 Gulf of Alaska (GOA) Navy Training Activities Final Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) and the 2016 GOA Navy Training Activities Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS. In the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, the Navy assesses the potential environmental effects associated with continuing periodic military readiness activities in the GOA Temporary Maritime Activities Area (TMAA). The Navy welcomes public review and comments on the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

The purpose of this Supplemental EIS/OEIS is to update the 2011 and 2016 impact analyses with new information and analytical methods. New information includes an updated acoustic effects model, updated marine species density data and hearing criteria, and other emergent best available science. The Navy is not proposing new activities or an increase in activities from current levels. Proposed training activities are similar to those that have occurred in the GOA TMAA for decades and are the same as those analyzed in the 2011 and 2016 impact analyses.

The Navy is preparing a Supplemental EIS/OEIS to renew required federal regulatory permits and authorizations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act, which expire in April 2022. The Supplemental EIS/OEIS supports naval training requirements to achieve and maintain fleet readiness as required by Title 10 of the U.S. Code.

Proposed Action:

The Navy's Proposed Action is to continue periodic military training activities within the GOA TMAA. The geographic extent of the GOA TMAA and Proposed Action, including the location, number, and frequency of major training exercises, remain unchanged from the 2016 GOA Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS. Although the types of activities and number of events in the Proposed Action are the same as in previous documents (Alternative 1 in both the 2011 and 2016 impact analyses), there have been changes in the platforms and systems used in those activities. For example, the EA-6B aircraft and frigate, and their associated systems, have been replaced by the EA-18G aircraft, Littoral Combat Ship, and Destroyer. The Supplemental EIS/OEIS includes the analysis of at-sea training activities projected to meet readiness requirements beyond 2022 and into the reasonably foreseeable future, and reflects the most up-to-date compilation of training activities deemed necessary to accomplish military readiness during that time period.

-more-

Figure F-11: Commander, Navy Region Northwest News Release for the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability and Virtual Public Meetings

GOA SUPPLEMENTAL EIS/OEIS -2-

Availability of the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS and public comment period:

The Navy is seeking public review and comment on the Proposed Action, alternatives, and the accuracy and adequacy of the environmental analysis. Visit the project website at www.GOAEIS.com to download the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, view project information, and submit substantive comments online.

The Navy is committed to providing the public an accessible version of the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS during COVID-19 conditions. If you need assistance accessing the document or attending the virtual public meetings, please contact Ms. Julianne Stanford, Navy Region Northwest Public Affairs Office, at julianne.stanford@navy.mil or 360-867-8525. For all other queries or if you require additional information about the project, please contact Ms. Kimberly Kler, GOA Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager, at projectmanager@goaeis.com.

Comments may be submitted online at www.GOAEIS.com or by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest
Attention: GOA Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
1101 Tautog Circle, Suite 203
Silverdale, WA 98315-1101

The Navy will accept comments throughout the public comment period from Dec. 11, 2020, to Feb. 16, 2021. To be considered in the development of the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS, comments must be postmarked or received online by 11:59 p.m. Pacific Standard Time Feb. 16, 2021. All comments submitted during the comment period will become part of the public record, and substantive comments will be addressed in the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

Virtual public meetings:

Due to COVID-19 travel and public event restrictions, the Navy is holding virtual public meetings, consisting of a presentation and question and answer session, to discuss the Proposed Action and the draft environmental impact analysis. Visit www.GOAEIS.com/VPM to learn more about and attend a virtual public meeting. An audio-only option will also be available.

Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2021
3 to 4 p.m. Alaska Standard Time

Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2021
5 to 6 p.m. Alaska Standard Time

Substantive questions for discussion with Navy representatives at the virtual public meetings can be submitted between Jan. 11 and 18 for the Jan. 19 meeting, and between Jan. 26 and Feb. 2 for the Feb. 3 meeting. Email questions to projectmanager@goaeis.com or complete the form at www.GOAEIS.com.

Please help inform your community by sharing the information in this news release.

-USN-

Figure F-11: Commander, Navy Region Northwest News Release for the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability and Virtual Public Meetings (continued)



COMMANDER, NAVY REGION NORTHWEST

Public Affairs Office
1100 Hunley Road, Silverdale, WA 98315-1100
Phone: (360) 867-8525 Fax: (360) 396-7127

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Release #21-0114

Jan. 14, 2020

NAVY TO HOLD VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETINGS FOR GULF OF ALASKA NAVY TRAINING ACTIVITIES DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/OVERSEAS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

SILVERDALE, Wash — The U.S. Navy is hosting upcoming virtual public meetings for the recently prepared draft supplement to the 2011 Gulf of Alaska (GOA) Navy Training Activities Final Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) and the 2016 GOA Navy Training Activities Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS. In the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, the Navy assesses the potential environmental effects associated with continuing periodic military readiness activities in the GOA Temporary Maritime Activities Area (TMAA). The Navy welcomes public review and comments on the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

The purpose of this Supplemental EIS/OEIS is to update the 2011 and 2016 impact analyses with new information and analytical methods. New information includes an updated acoustic effects model, updated marine species density data and hearing criteria, and other emergent best available science. The Navy is not proposing new activities or an increase in activities from current levels. Proposed training activities are similar to those that have occurred in the GOA TMAA for decades and are the same as those analyzed in the 2011 and 2016 impact analyses.

The Navy is preparing a Supplemental EIS/OEIS to renew required federal regulatory permits and authorizations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act, which expire in April 2022. The Supplemental EIS/OEIS supports naval training requirements to achieve and maintain fleet readiness as required by Title 10 of the U.S. Code.

Virtual public meetings:

Due to COVID-19 travel and public event restrictions, the Navy is holding virtual public meetings, consisting of a presentation and question and answer session, to discuss the Proposed Action and the draft environmental impact analysis. Visit www.GOAEIS.com/VPM to learn more about and attend a virtual public meeting. An audio-only option will also be available.

Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2021
3 to 4 p.m. Alaska Standard Time

Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2021
5 to 6 p.m. Alaska Standard Time

Substantive questions for discussion with Navy representatives at the virtual public meetings can be submitted between Jan. 11 and 18 for the Jan. 19 meeting, and between Jan. 26 and Feb. 2 for the Feb. 3 meeting. Email questions to projectmanager@goaeis.com or complete the form at www.GOAEIS.com.

Questions submitted and discussed at the virtual public meetings are not part of the public record.

-more-

Figure F-12: Commander, Navy Region Northwest News Release for the Notice of the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Virtual Public Meetings

GOA SUPPLEMENTAL EIS/OEIS -2-

Availability of the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS and public comment period:

The Navy is seeking public review and comment on the Proposed Action, alternatives, and the accuracy and adequacy of the environmental analysis. Visit the project website at www.GOAEIS.com to download the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, view project information, and submit substantive comments online.

The Navy is committed to providing the public an accessible version of the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS during COVID-19 conditions. If you need assistance accessing the document or attending the virtual public meetings, please contact Ms. Julianne Stanford, Navy Region Northwest Public Affairs Office, at julianne.stanford@navy.mil or 360-867-8525. For all other queries or if you require additional information about the project, please contact Ms. Kimberly Kler, GOA Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager, at projectmanager@goaeis.com.

Comments may be submitted online at www.GOAEIS.com or by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest
Attention: GOA Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
1101 Tautog Circle, Suite 203
Silverdale, WA 98315-1101

The Navy will accept comments throughout the public comment period from Dec. 11, 2020, to Feb. 16, 2021. To be considered in the development of the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS, comments must be postmarked or received online by 11:59 p.m. Pacific Standard Time Feb. 16, 2021. All comments submitted during the comment period will become part of the public record, and substantive comments will be addressed in the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

Proposed action:

The Navy's Proposed Action is to continue periodic military training activities within the GOA TMAA. The geographic extent of the GOA TMAA and Proposed Action, including the location, number, and frequency of major training exercises, remain unchanged from the 2016 GOA Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS. Although the types of activities and number of events in the Proposed Action are the same as in previous documents (Alternative 1 in both the 2011 and 2016 impact analyses), there have been changes in the platforms and systems used in those activities. For example, the EA-6B aircraft and frigate, and their associated systems, have been replaced by the EA-18G aircraft, Littoral Combat Ship, and Destroyer. The Supplemental EIS/OEIS includes the analysis of at-sea training activities projected to meet readiness requirements beyond 2022 and into the reasonably foreseeable future, and reflects the most up-to-date compilation of training activities deemed necessary to accomplish military readiness during that time period.

Please help inform your community by sharing the information in this news release.

-USN-

Figure F-12: Commander, Navy Region Northwest News Release for the Notice of the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Virtual Public Meetings (continued)

Press Release

Commander, Navy Region Northwest
1100 Hunley Road, Silverdale, WA 98315-1100



Contact: Julianne Stanford
Navy Region Northwest Public Affairs Specialist
(T) 360-867-8525
julianne.stanford@navy.mil

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT
Dec. 11, 2020

Virtual Public Meetings for the Gulf of Alaska Navy Training Activities Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement

(40 Seconds)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNOUNCER:

THE U-S NAVY INVITES YOU TO ATTEND VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETINGS TO LEARN ABOUT POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH CONTINUING PERIODIC MILITARY READINESS ACTIVITIES WITHIN A SPECIFIED AREA OF THE GULF OF ALASKA.

THE VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETINGS WILL BE HELD FROM THREE TO FOUR P-M ALASKA STANDARD TIME TUESDAY, JANUARY NINETEENTH AND FROM FIVE TO SIX P-M ALASKA STANDARD TIME WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY THIRD. SUBSTANTIVE QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION AT THE MEETINGS CAN BE SUBMITTED ONE WEEK IN ADVANCE.

YOU CAN LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROJECT, VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETINGS, INCLUDING HOW TO SUBMIT QUESTIONS, AND PROVIDE COMMENTS AT W-W-W DOT G-O-A- E-I-S DOT COM.

-30-

Figure F-13: Commander, Navy Region Northwest Public Service Announcement for the Notice of the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Virtual Public Meetings

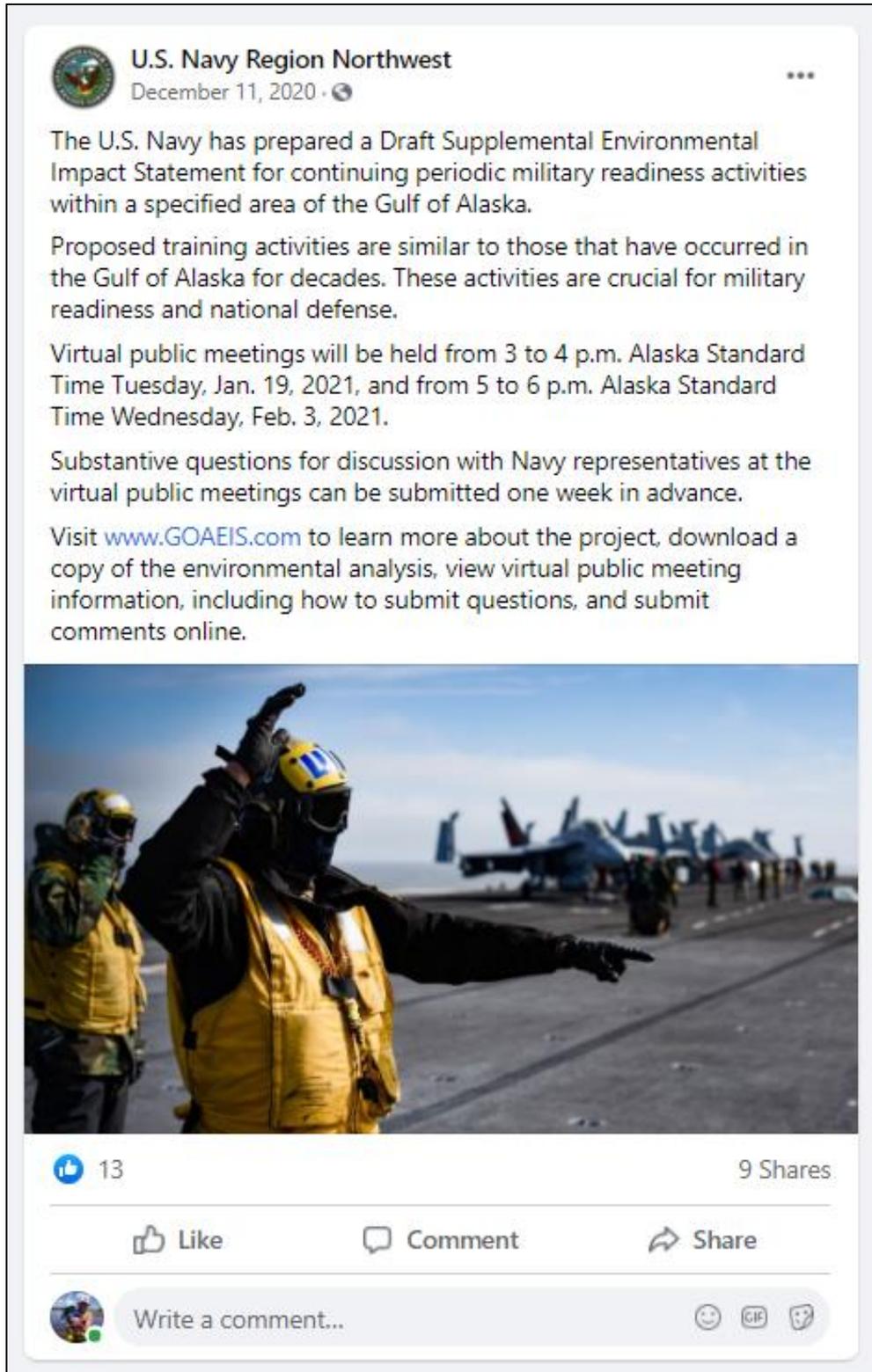


Figure F-14: Commander, Navy Region Northwest Facebook Post for the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability and Virtual Public Meetings

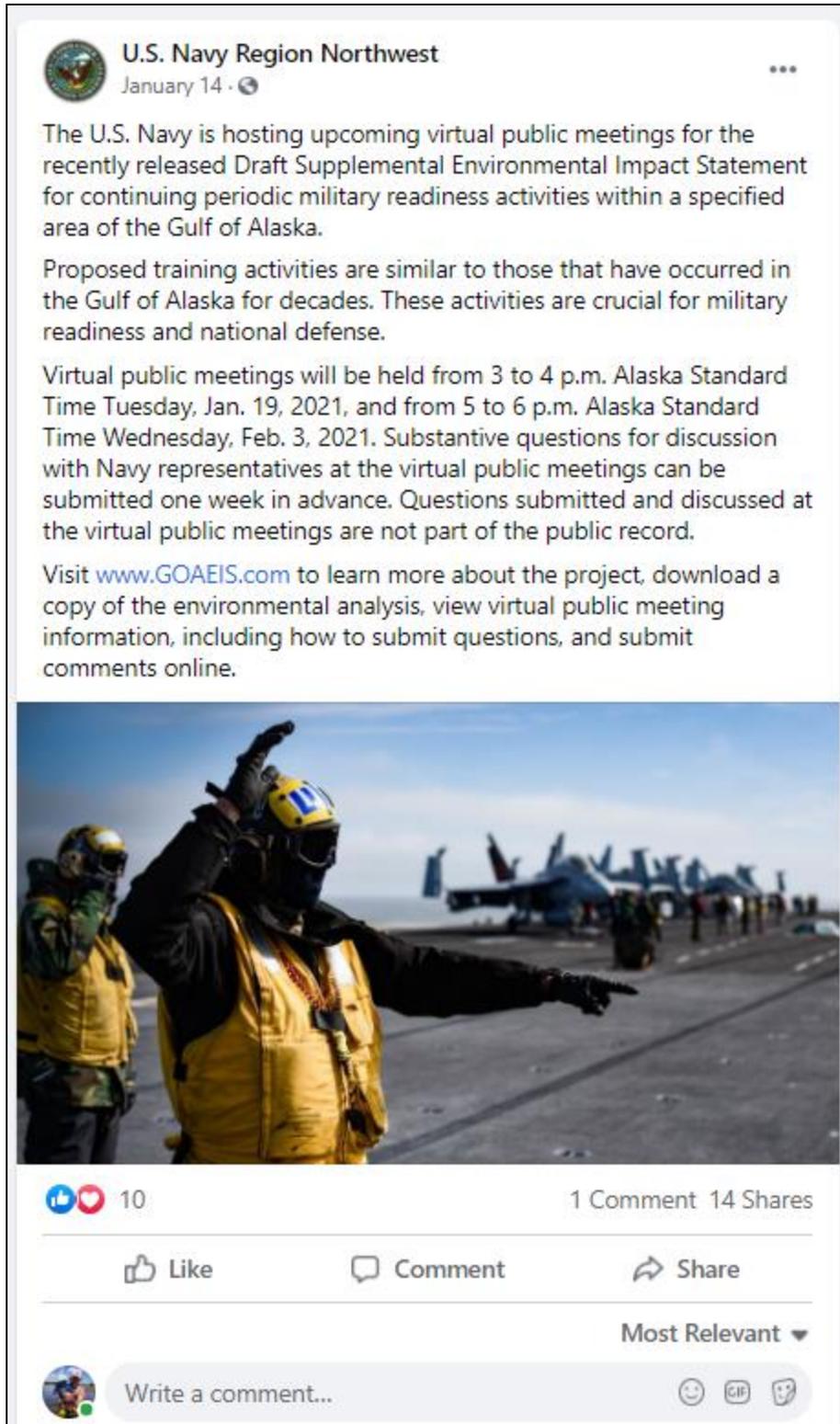


Figure F-15: Commander, Navy Region Northwest Facebook Post for the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Virtual Public Meetings

F.3.1.5 Website Subscriber Email Notification

Project information was also distributed via the project website subscriber's email distribution list. Forty-eight website subscribers from the scoping phase were carried forward into the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS public review and comment phase. Email notifications were sent to website subscribers on the following dates:

- December 11, 2020: To announce the release of the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS and virtual public meetings.
- January 11, 2021: To announce that questions would now be accepted for discussion at the January 19, 2021, virtual public meeting.
- January 14, 2021: To remind subscribers that the question period would soon close for the January 19, 2021, virtual public meeting.
- January 26, 2021: To announce that questions would now be accepted for discussion at the February 3, 2021, virtual public meeting.
- February 1, 2021: To remind subscribers that the question period would soon close for the February 3, 2021, virtual public meeting.
- February 4, 2021: To provide a survey to obtain feedback from the public on the virtual public meetings.
- February 11, 2021: To remind subscribers that the comment period would soon close.

The website subscriber email notifications are shown in Figure F-16 through Figure F-20.

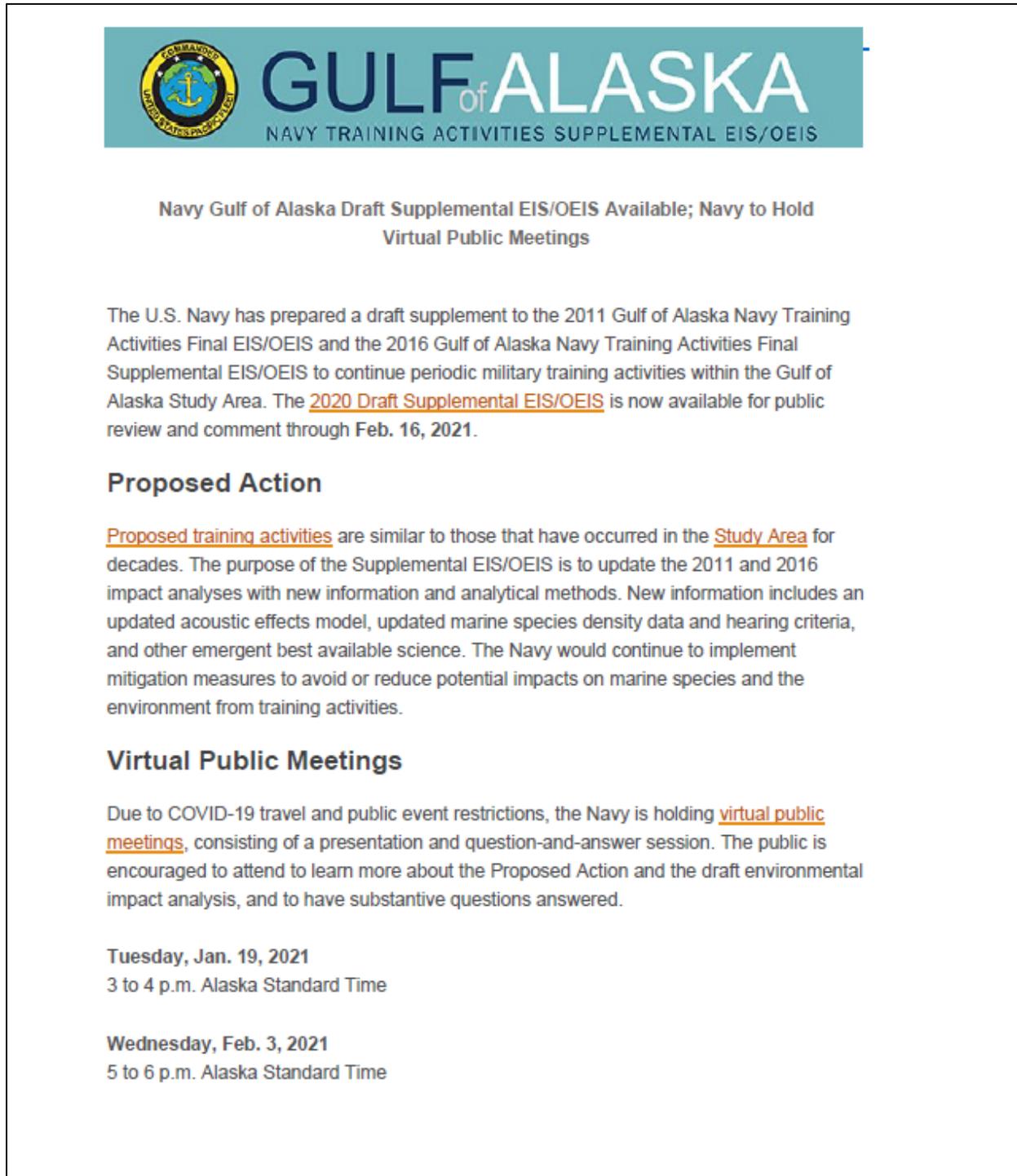


Figure F-16: Subscriber Email Notification for the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability and Virtual Public Meetings

Visit www.GOAEIS.com/VPM to learn more about and attend a virtual public meeting. An audio-only (telephone) option will also be available.

Questions will be answered during the question-and-answer portion of the virtual public meeting. The public is encouraged to [submit substantive questions](#) in advance for discussion with Navy representatives at the virtual public meetings. Attendees can also submit questions during the virtual public meetings.

For attendees who want to submit questions in advance, the Navy has established the following timeframes for questions:

- For the Jan. 19 meeting, please submit questions between Jan. 11 and 18, 2021.
- For the Feb. 3 meeting, please submit questions between Jan. 26 and Feb. 2, 2021.

Questions may be emailed to projectmanager@goaeis.com or [complete the form at www.GOAEIS.com](#).

Public Review and Comment

The Navy is committed to providing the public with an accessible version of the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS during COVID-19 conditions. If you need assistance accessing the document or attending the virtual public meetings, please contact Ms. Julianne Stanford, Navy Region Northwest Public Affairs Office, at julianne.stanford@navy.mil or 360-867-8525.

The Navy is seeking public review and comment on the Proposed Action, alternatives, and the accuracy and adequacy of the environmental analysis. Visit the project website at www.GOAEIS.com to [download the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS](#), view project information, and [submit substantive comments online](#). Comments may also be submitted by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest
Attention: GOA Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
1101 Tautog Circle, Suite 203
Silverdale, WA 98315-1101

The Navy will accept comments throughout the public comment period from Dec. 11, 2020, to Feb. 16, 2021. To be considered in the development of the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS, comments must be postmarked or received online by 11:59 p.m. Pacific Standard Time Feb. 16, 2021. All comments submitted during the comment period will become part of the public record, and substantive comments will be addressed in the Final

Figure F-16: Subscriber Email Notification for the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability and Virtual Public Meetings (continued)

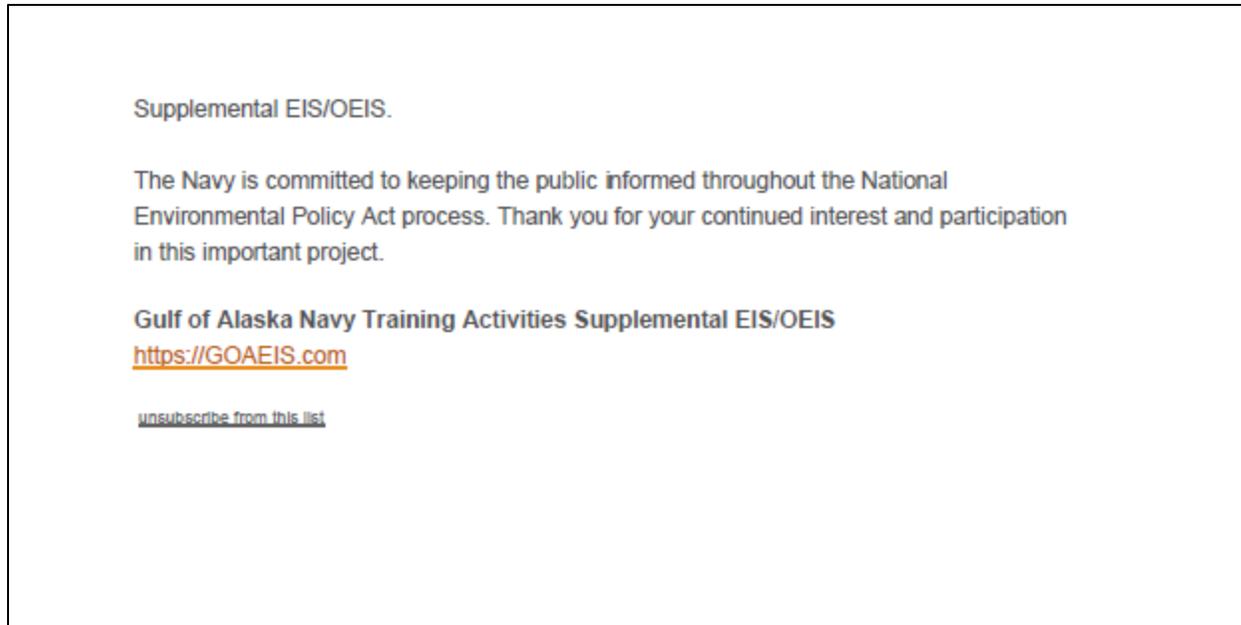


Figure F-16: Subscriber Email Notification for the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability and Virtual Public Meetings (continued)



Questions Now Accepted for Discussion at Navy Gulf of Alaska
Supplemental EIS/OEIS Virtual Public Meeting

The Navy is holding two virtual public meetings for the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Navy Training Activities Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS). Due to COVID-19 travel and public event restrictions, the Navy is unable to hold in-person public meetings.

Virtual public meetings will consist of a presentation and question-and-answer session. The public is encouraged to [submit substantive questions in advance](#) for discussion with Navy representatives during the question-and-answer portion of the virtual public meeting. Attendees can also submit questions during the virtual public meetings. Virtual public meetings will be held:

Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2021
3 to 4 p.m. Alaska Standard Time

Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2021
5 to 6 p.m. Alaska Standard Time

Questions may now be submitted for the Jan. 19 meeting, and will be accepted through Jan. 18, 2021. For the Feb. 3 meeting, please submit questions between Jan. 26 and Feb. 2, 2021.

Questions may be emailed to projectmanager@goaeis.com or [submitted with an online form](#).

Visit www.GOAEIS.com/VPM to learn more about and attend a virtual public meeting using Zoom. An audio-only (telephone) option will also be available by dialing 669-254-5252 or 669-216-1590 (Zoom Meeting ID: 160 749 6486).

Figure F-17: Subscriber Email Notification for Question Period for the January 19, 2021, 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Virtual Public Meeting

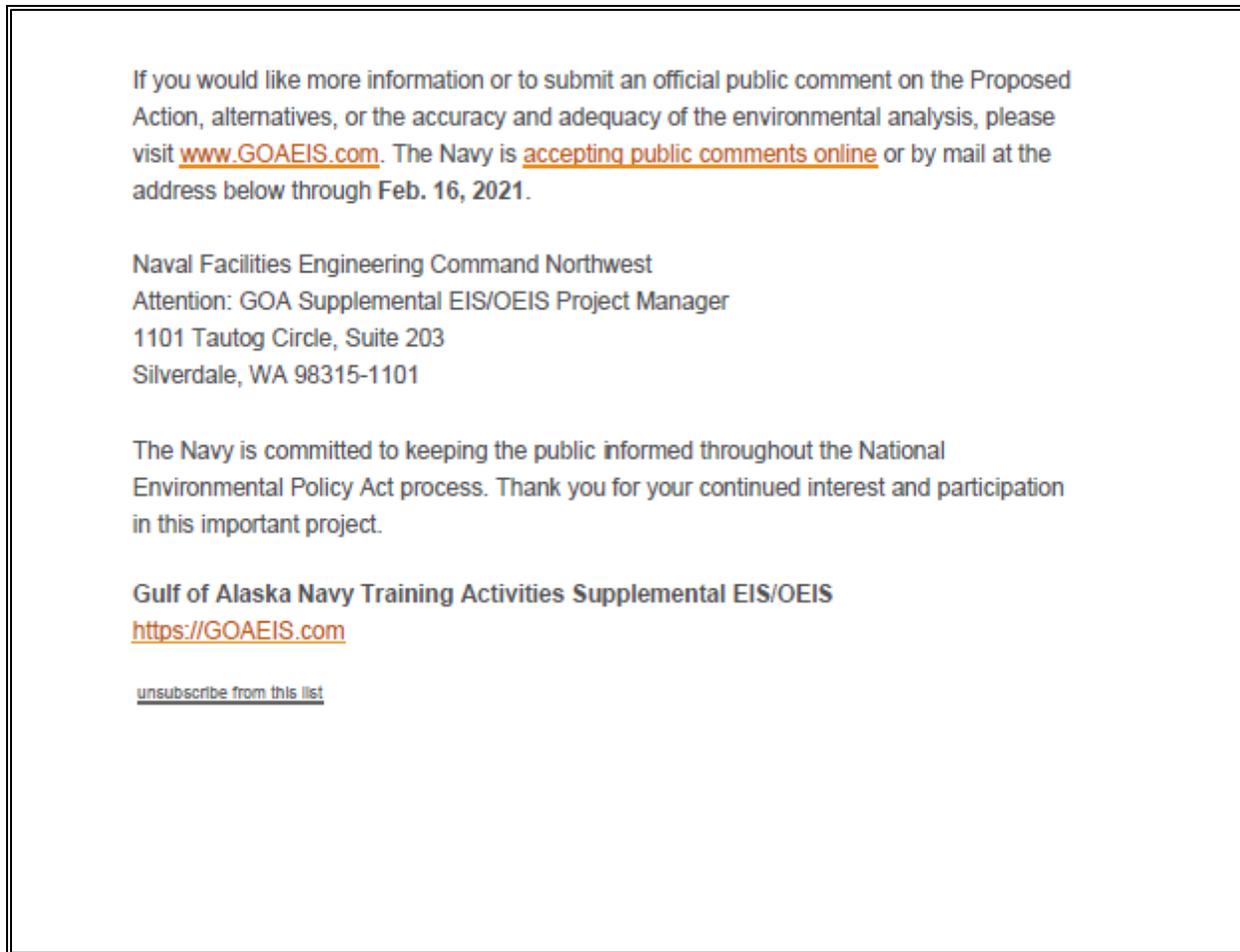


Figure F-17: Subscriber Email Notification for Question Period for January 19, 2021, 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Virtual Public Meeting (continued)



Questions Now Accepted for Discussion at Navy Gulf of Alaska Supplemental
EIS/OEIS Virtual Public Meeting

The Navy is holding its second virtual public meeting for the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Navy Training Activities Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS). Due to COVID-19 travel and public event restrictions, the Navy is unable to hold in-person public meetings.

The virtual public meeting will consist of a presentation and question-and-answer session. The public is encouraged to [submit substantive questions in advance](#) for discussion with Navy representatives during the question-and-answer portion of the virtual public meeting. Attendees can also submit questions during the virtual public meeting. The virtual public meeting will be held:

Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2021
5 to 6 p.m. Alaska Standard Time

Questions may now be submitted for the Feb. 3 meeting, and will be accepted through Feb. 2, 2021.

Questions may be emailed to projectmanager@goaeis.com or [submitted with an online form](#).

[Visit www.GOAEIS.com/VPM](http://www.GOAEIS.com/VPM) to learn more about and attend a virtual public meeting using Zoom. An audio-only (telephone) option will also be available by dialing:
Phone: 669-254-5252 or 669-216-1590
Zoom Meeting ID: 160 523 3497

Questions submitted and discussed at the virtual public meetings are not part of the public record. If you would like more information or to submit an official public comment on the Proposed Action, alternatives, or the accuracy and adequacy of the environmental

**Figure F-18: Subscriber Email Notification for Question Period for February 3, 2021,
2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Virtual Public Meeting**

analysis, please visit www.GOAEIS.com. The Navy is [accepting public comments online](#) or by mail at the address below through Feb. 16, 2021.

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest
Attention: GOA Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
1101 Tautog Circle, Suite 203
Silverdale, WA 98315-1101

The Navy is committed to keeping the public informed throughout the National Environmental Policy Act process. Thank you for your continued interest and participation in this important project.

Gulf of Alaska Navy Training Activities Supplemental EIS/OEIS
<https://www.GOAEIS.com>

[unsubscribe from this list](#)

Figure F-18: Subscriber Email Notification for Question Period for February 3, 2021, 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Virtual Public Meeting (continued)



Gulf of Alaska Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS Virtual Public Meeting Survey Available

Thank you for participating in the virtual public meetings for the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Navy Training Activities Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS).

The U.S. Navy has developed [a short survey to obtain feedback from the public](#) on the virtual public meetings. Responses submitted on this survey are not part of the official public record, but will be used to improve the public meeting experience in the future.

If you would like more information or to submit an official public comment on the Proposed Action, alternatives, or the accuracy and adequacy of the environmental analysis, please visit www.GOAEIS.com. The Navy is [accepting public comments online](#) or by mail at the address below through Feb. 16, 2021.

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest
Attention: GOA Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
1101 Tautog Circle, Suite 203
Silverdale, WA 98315-1101

The Navy is committed to keeping the public informed throughout the National Environmental Policy Act process. Thank you for your continued interest and participation in this important project.

Gulf of Alaska Navy Training Activities Supplemental EIS/OEIS
<https://www.GOAEIS.com>

[unsubscribe from this list](#)

Figure F-19: Subscriber Email Notification for the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Virtual Public Meeting Survey



Comment Period Closing Feb. 16 for the Navy's Gulf of Alaska Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS

On Dec. 11, 2020, the U.S. Navy released for public review a draft supplement to the 2011 Gulf of Alaska Navy Training Activities Final Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact (EIS/OEIS) and the 2016 Gulf of Alaska Navy Training Activities Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS to continue periodic military training activities within the Gulf of Alaska Study Area.

The Navy is seeking public review and comment on the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS through Feb. 16, 2021. Please visit the project website at www.GOAEIS.com to [download the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS](#), [view project information](#), and [submit substantive comments online](#). Comments may also be submitted by mail to:

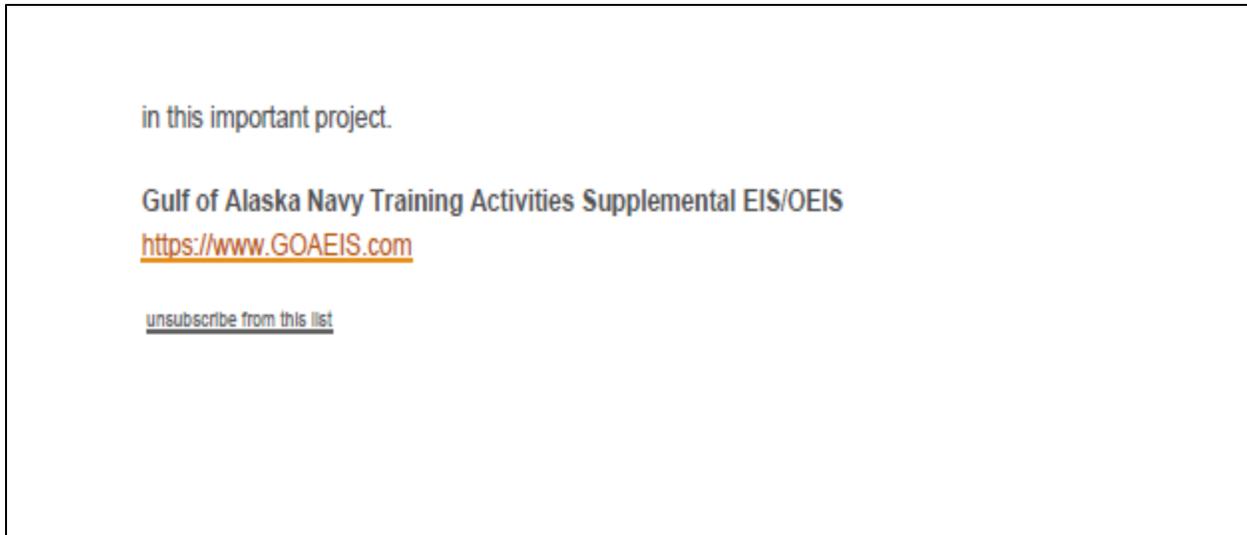
Naval Facilities Engineering Command Northwest
Attention: GOA Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
1101 Tautog Circle, Suite 203
Silverdale, WA 98315-1101

To be considered in the development of the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS, comments must be postmarked or received online by 11:59 p.m. Pacific Standard Time Feb. 16, 2021. All comments submitted during the comment period will become part of the public record, and substantive comments will be addressed in the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

The Navy is committed to providing the public with an accessible version of the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS during COVID-19 conditions. If you need assistance accessing the document please contact Ms. Julianne Stanford, Navy Region Northwest Public Affairs Office, at julianne.stanford@navy.mil or 360-867-8525.

The Navy is committed to keeping the public informed throughout the National Environmental Policy Act process. Thank you for your continued interest and participation

**Figure F-20: Subscriber Email Notification for the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS
Comment Period Closing**



**Figure F-20: Subscriber Email Notification for the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS
Comment Period Closing (continued)**

F.3.2 Summary of the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement Virtual Public Meetings

Due to the widespread outbreak of respiratory illness from the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19), and restrictions on travel and large public gatherings, the Navy took additional steps to broaden efforts to notify, inform, and involve the public during the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS public review and comment period. In place of in-person public meetings the Navy held two virtual public meetings using the Zoom video conferencing platform. The Navy’s goal was to provide an opportunity for the public to learn more about the project and the environmental impact analysis, as well as have their questions answered, just as they would at an in-person public meeting.

The two virtual public meetings were designed so interested individuals could attend by computer, tablet, mobile device, or telephone. The virtual public meetings consisted of a short welcome video from Commander, Navy Region Northwest Rear Admiral Stephen Barnett; a slide presentation; and a question-and-answer session to discuss the Proposed Action and the draft environmental impact analysis. Each meeting was scheduled for one hour.

The public was encouraged to ask substantive questions about the Proposed Action or the environmental impact analysis during the virtual public meetings. Questions could also be submitted in advance during a specific timeframe by emailing projectmanager@goaeis.com or by completing an online form. Questions submitted and discussed at the virtual public meetings were not part of the official public record. An official public comment could be submitted by mail or on the project website throughout the comment period. The Navy promoted the proper commenting channels throughout all notification materials, website content, subscriber email notifications, and during the virtual public meeting.

In total, 56 members of the public, media, elected officials or staffers, nongovernmental organizations, contractors, and Navy employees attended the two virtual public meetings.

Table F-6 details the number of attendees who participated in the virtual public meetings. Media attendance reflects people who identified themselves as media.

Table F-6: Summary of the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Virtual Public Meetings

Date/Time	Attendance
Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2021 3 to 4 p.m. Alaska Standard Time Meeting Duration: 106 minutes	Total Attendance: 38 General Public: 13 Navy Personnel or Known Navy Contractors: 25
Media Attendance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Margaret Bauman, The Cordova Times/Fishermen’s News Online 	
Noted Attendees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greg Kaplan, Congressional Staffer from Senator Lisa Murkowski’s office • Robert “Gordy” Vernon, Homer Library Advisory Board Member • Christy Terry, Mayor of Seward, Alaska; Seward Port Manager, Alaska Railroad • Stacy Studebaker, Kodiak Audubon Society 	

Date/Time	Attendance
Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2021 5 to 6 p.m. Alaska Standard Time Meeting Duration: 61 minutes	Total Attendance: 18 General Public: 5 Navy Personnel or Known Navy Contractors: 13
Media Attendance:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sage Smiley, KSTK (Stikine River Radio) 	
Noted Attendee:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greg Kaplan, Congressional Staffer from Senator Lisa Murkowski's office 	

F.3.3 Public Comments on the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement

Throughout the public comment period, a total of 14 unique comments were received. Public comments on the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS were submitted in two ways:

- Mailed letters (1 comment)
- Electronically submitted directly on the project website (13 comments)

Comments on the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS were received from three federal agencies, one nongovernmental organization (one comment was submitted on behalf of multiple organizations), one Alaska Native federally recognized tribe, and nine private individuals. All public comments can be accessed on the project website at www.GOAEIS.com. Appendix G (Public Comments and Responses) contains the comments received on the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS and the Navy's responses.

F.3.4 Expanded 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement Public Outreach

To inform stakeholders, Navy personnel briefed the Alaska federal Congressional delegation and participated in two Alaska environmental conferences prior to and during the public review and comment period. Expanded outreach continued throughout the development of the SEIS/OEIS to ensure stakeholders were informed. Outreach events are shown in Table F-7.

Table F-7: Expanded Public Outreach Conducted During the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Public Review and Comment Period

Stakeholders	Conducted By	Format of Outreach	Date
Staff members from Alaska offices of Senator Dan Sullivan (R-AK), Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), and Representative Don Young (R-AK)	U.S. Pacific Fleet NAVFAC Northwest	Microsoft Teams brief (virtual)	Dec. 9, 2020
Alaska Marine Science Symposium	U.S. Pacific Fleet NAVFAC Northwest	Poster presentation on Navy-funded satellite tagging of Chinook salmon in the Gulf of Alaska (virtual)	Jan. 26–28, 2021
Alaska Forum on the Environment	U.S. Pacific Fleet NAVFAC Northwest	Presentation during Military Training in Alaska panel (virtual)	Feb. 8–11, 2021
ComFish Alaska	U.S. Pacific Fleet NAVFAC Northwest	Exhibitor booth, including a Military Training in Alaska Power Point Presentation (virtual)	Mar. 30–31, 2021

Notes: AK = Alaska; NAVFAC = Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command; R = Republican; U.S. = United States

F.4 Distribution of the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement

All of the parties notified of the availability of the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS were directed to view the document electronically on the project website (www.GOAEIS.com), or to access printed and CD/DVD copies available at the information repositories discussed in Section F.4.2 (Information Repositories). All public notices provided the contact information for the Navy Region Northwest Public Affairs Officer if the public needed assistance accessing the document. Chairpersons, presidents, or chiefs of Alaska Native federally recognized tribes received a CD/DVD copy of the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS.

F.4.1 Federal Agencies

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency received an electronic version of the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS. The National Marine Fisheries Service headquarters office received printed and electronic copies of the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service headquarters office received electronic copies of the Draft and Final SEIS/OEIS.

F.4.2 Information Repositories

The 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS was mailed in printed copy form, along with a CD/DVD to the information repository locations shown in Table F-8.

Table F-8: 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Information Repositories

Repository Name	Physical Address
Cordova Public Library	601 First St., Cordova, Alaska 99574
Kodiak Public Library	612 Egan Way, Kodiak, Alaska 99615
Seward Community Library	239 Sixth Ave., Seward, Alaska 99664

F.5 Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement

The Navy has prepared a Supplement to the December 2020 GOA Navy Training Activities Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS to addresses a change in the Study Area and the addition of a new Continental Shelf and Slope Mitigation Area. The Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare the Supplement was published in the *Federal Register* February 1, 2022 (87 Federal Register 5472). There was no public comment period.

The Notice of Availability (NOA) was published in the *Federal Register* March 18, 2022 (87 Federal Register 15415). The public was able to review and provide comments on the scope of the analysis by mail and through the project website through May 2, 2022. *Federal Register* notices can be found in Appendix D (Federal Register Notices).

F.5.1 Notifications on the Supplement

Notification materials provided information on the scope and content of the Supplement, where the document could be accessed, the review and comment period, how to submit a comment, and website address. A summary of these notification efforts follows.

F.5.1.1 Notification Letters

Tribal letters for the NOI were mailed February 3, 2022, via priority mail or Federal Express to 42 tribal chairpersons, presidents, or chiefs of Alaska Native federally recognized tribes. Stakeholder letters were

mailed first-class February 2, 2022, to 189 federal, state, and local elected officials, government agencies, tribal groups, and organizations. Entities that received the NOI notification letters and other direct mailings, can be found in Table F-9. An example of a tribal letter can be found in Figure F-21, and an example of a stakeholder letter can be found in Figure F-22.

Tribal letters for the NOA were mailed March 16, 2022, via priority mail or Federal Express to 42 tribal chairpersons, presidents, or chiefs of Alaska Native federally recognized tribes. Stakeholder letters were mailed first-class March 16, 2022, to 191 federal, state, and local elected officials, government agencies, tribal groups, and organizations. Entities that received the NOA notification letters and other direct mailings, can be found in Table F-9. An example of a tribal letter can be found in Figure F-23, and an example of a stakeholder letter can be found in Figure F-24.

Table F-9: Entities that Received the Supplement Notification Letters and Other Direct Mailings

<i>Alaska Native Federally Recognized Tribes and Tribal Groups</i>	
Agdaagux Tribe of King Cove	Native Village of Eyak
Aleut Community of St Paul Island	Native Village of False Pass
Aleut Corporation	Native Village of Karluk
Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association	Native Village of Larsen Bay
Aleutians East Borough	Native Village of Nanwalek (English Bay)
Alutiiq Museum	Native Village of Nelson Lagoon
Alutiiq Tribe of Old Harbor	Native Village of Nikolski (IRA)
Afognak Native Corporation	Native Village of Ouzinkie
Belkofski Corporation (King Cove)	Native Village of Perryville
Bristol Bay Native Corporation	Native Village of Port Graham
Chignik Bay Council	Native Village of Port Heiden
Chignik Lake Village	Native Village of Eklutna (Eklutna Native Village)
Chugach Alaska Corporation	Native Village of Port Lions
Chugachmiut, Inc.	Native Village of Tatitlek
Cook Inlet Region, Inc.	Native Village of Tyonek
Cook Inlet Tribal Council	Native Village of Unga
Goldbelt Inc.	Ninilchik Native Associations, Inc.
Indigenous People's Council for Marine Mammals	Ninilchik Traditional Council
Isanotski Corporation (False Pass)	Pauloff Harbor Village
Kaguyak Village	Qagan Tayagungin Tribe of Sand Point
Kenaitze Indian Tribe (IRA)	Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska
King Cove Corporation	Qutekcak Tribe
Knik Tribe	Saint George Island Traditional Council
Kodiak Area Native Association	Salamatof Tribe (Village of Salamatof)
Koniag, Inc.	Sanak Corporation (Sand Point)
Lesnoi, Inc.	Sealaska Corporation
Natives of Kodiak, Inc.	Seldovia Village Tribe (IRA)
Native Village of Afognak	Shumagin Corporation (Sand Point)
Native Village of Akhiok	St. George Tanaq Corporation
Native Village of Akutan	Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak
Native Village of Atka	Tangirnaq Native Village (Woody Island)
Native Village of Belkofski	Unga Corporation (Sand Point)
Native Village of Chenega	Yakutat Tlingit Tribe
Native Village of Chignik Lagoon	The Alaska Sea Otter and Steller Sea Lion Commission

Federal Elected Officials and Federal Agencies

U.S. Senators (Alaska)
U.S. Representatives (Alaska)
Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge
Federal Aviation Administration
 Alaska Region
 Headquarters, North American Aerospace Defense Command
 Northwest Mountain Region
Marine Mammal Commission
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
 National Marine Fisheries Service
 Alaska Fisheries Science Center
 Kodiak Laboratory
 Kasitsna Bay Lab
 Alaska Regional Office
 Habitat Conservation Division
 Protected Resources Division
 Sustainable Fisheries Division
 Office of Protected Resources
 Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle Conservation
National Park Service
 Glacier Bay National Park & Preserve
North Pacific Fisheries Management Council
Office of Aviation Services
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
 Alaska District
U.S. Department of Agriculture
 Forest Service
 Alaska Region
 Chugach National Forest
U.S. Department of Commerce
U.S. Department of the Interior
 Bureau of Indian Affairs
 Bureau of Land Management
 Alaska State Office
 Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
 Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
 Anchorage Region
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
 Anchorage Operations Office
 NEPA Compliance Division
 Region 10
 Environmental Review and Sediment Management Unit
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 Alaska Region
 Anchorage Field Office
 Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge
U.S. Geological Survey
 Alaska Science Center
 Western Fisheries Research Center

State Elected Officials and State Agencies

Office of the Governor and Staff
Alaska State Representatives (Districts 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36)
Alaska State Senators (Districts A, B, C, D, F, G, K, L, N, O, P, Q, R, S)
Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development
 Division of Community and Regional Affairs
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation
 Commissioner's Office
 Division Administrative Services
 Division of Air Quality
 Division of Environmental Health
 Division of Spill Prevention and Response
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
 Division of Commercial Fisheries
 Division of Habitat
 Division of Sport Fisheries
 Fairbanks Office
 Glennallen Office
 Division of Subsistence
 Division of Wildlife Conservation
Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
 Division of Forestry
 Division of Parks & Outdoor Recreation
 Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys
 Division of Mining Land and Water, Anchorage
 Division of Oil and Gas
 Public Information Center
Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities
 North Region Fairbanks
 Statewide Aviation
Regulatory Commission of Alaska

Local Elected Officials and Local Agencies

City and Borough of Juneau
City of Cordova
City of Homer
City of Kodiak
City of Seward
Fairbanks North Star Borough
Kenai Peninsula Borough
Kenai Peninsula Borough School District
Kodiak Island Borough
Matanuska-Susitna Borough
Municipality of Anchorage



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDER
UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
250 MAKALAPA DRIVE
PEARL HARBOR HI 96860-3131

IN REPLY REFER TO:
5090
Ser N46/0113
January 25, 2022

The Honorable Al Cratty, Sr.
Alutiiq Tribe of Old Harbor
P.O. Box 62
Old Harbor, AK 99643

Dear President Cratty, Sr.:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF INTENT TO PREPARE A SUPPLEMENT TO THE GULF OF ALASKA NAVY TRAINING ACTIVITIES DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/OVERSEAS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The U.S. Navy is preparing a Supplement to the December 2020 Gulf of Alaska (GOA) Navy Training Activities Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS). This Supplement will address a change in the Study Area and the addition of a new Continental Shelf and Slope Mitigation Area.

Since the release of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS on December 11, 2020 and based on the latest Northern Edge Exercise 2021, the Navy recognized that the size and shape of the GOA Temporary Maritime Activities Area (TMAA) no longer provides sufficient space for the realistic maneuvering of vessels and aircraft during training exercises. Proposed changes to the Study Area include additional airspace and sea space to the west and south of the TMAA. The additional area is referred to as the Western Maneuver Area consisting of approximately 185,806 square nautical miles (see Enclosure 1). This additional space enables Navy personnel and units to practice more realistic, complex training scenarios in a safer, more efficient manner that would better prepare them to respond to real-world incidents. The TMAA (approximately 42,146 square nautical miles) remains unchanged and any activities involving active sonar or explosives would as in the past occur in this area only. The Navy is not proposing new or increased training activities in the Western Maneuver Area, only an expansion of the area the Navy may use for vessel and aircraft maneuvering purposes during exercises. The number of vessels, aircraft, underway steaming hours, events, and flight times remains the same.

In response to agency, tribal, and public comments, the Navy also proposes implementing a new mitigation area within the continental shelf and shelf slope area of the TMAA (approximately 14,600 square nautical miles). The Navy would restrict the use of explosives during training (up to 10,000 feet altitude) in this area to protect marine species and biologically important habitat. The Navy anticipates the implementation of the proposed mitigation area would minimize impacts on marine mammals, fish, and marine birds, positively affecting marine species, fisheries, Alaska Native tribes, the regional economy, and the people of Alaska.

Figure F-21: Tribal Notification Letter for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Intent

5090
Ser N46/0113
January 25, 2022

The Supplement to the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS is expected to be available for public review and comment in March 2022. Previously submitted comments do not need to be resubmitted as public comments received during the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS comment period (December 11, 2020 – February 16, 2021) are still valid and are being considered in the development of the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

If you would like additional information about the project or would like to schedule a briefing, please contact Ms. Kimberly Kler, GOA Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager, at projectmanager@goaeis.com. Please also visit the project website at www.GOAEIS.com to learn more about the overall project and the Supplement. The Navy will continue to inform and engage the public, stakeholders, and Alaska Native tribes throughout the National Environmental Policy Act process.

We request your help to inform the community about the upcoming release of the Supplement to the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS by sharing this information with your staff and interested individuals.

Sincerely,



A. K. HUTCHISON
Captain, U.S. Navy
By direction

Enclosure: 1. Proposed Changes to the Study Area and New Continental Shelf and Slope Mitigation Area for the Gulf of Alaska Navy Training Activities Supplement to the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS

Figure F-21: Tribal Notification Letter for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Intent (continued)

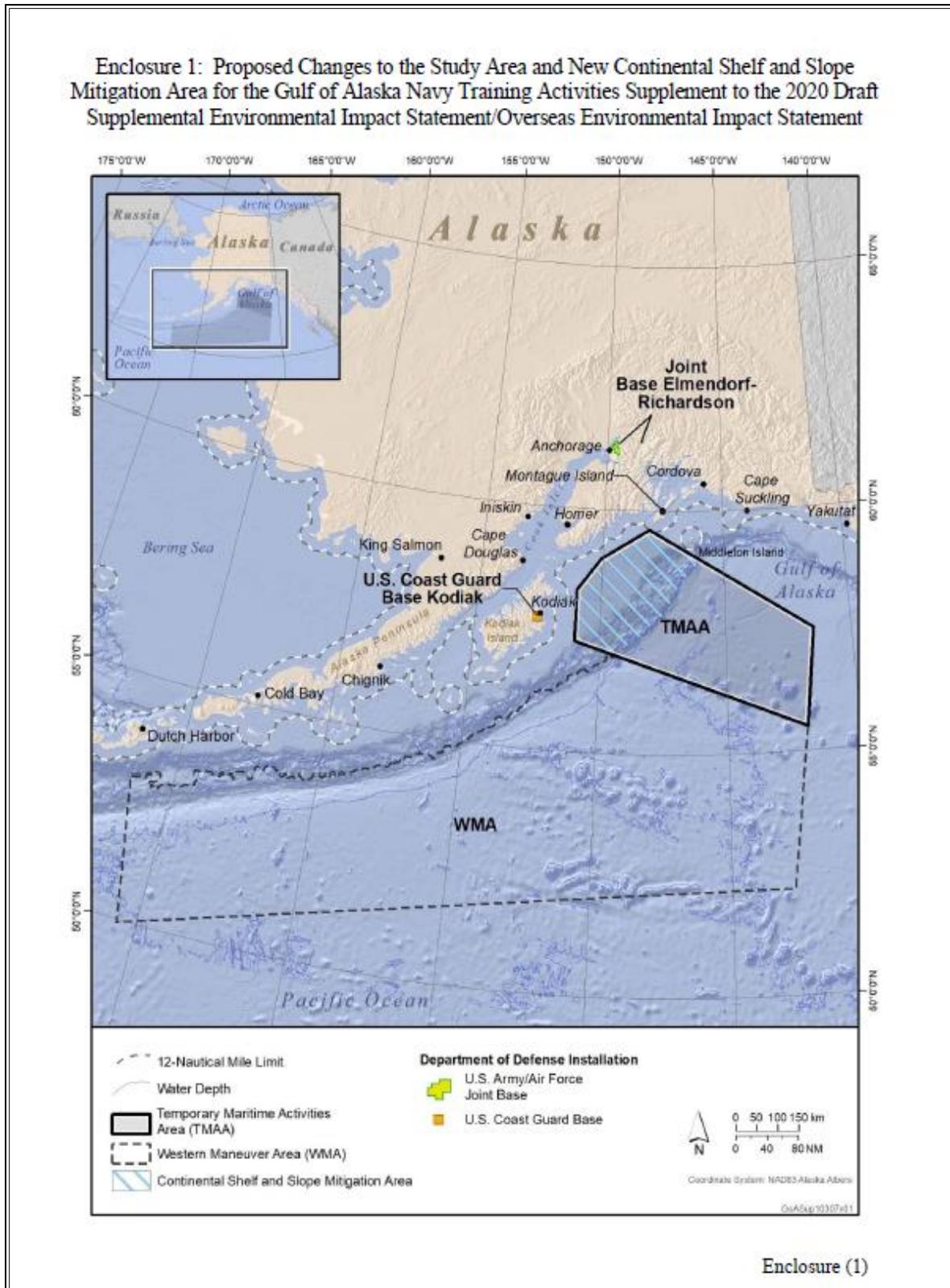


Figure F-21: Tribal Notification Letter for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Intent (continued)



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

COMMANDER
UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
250 MAKALAPA DRIVE
PEARL HARBOR HI 96860-3131

IN REPLY REFER TO:

5090
Ser N46/0112
January 25, 2022

Dear Sir or Madam:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF INTENT TO PREPARE A SUPPLEMENT TO THE GULF OF ALASKA NAVY TRAINING ACTIVITIES DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/OVERSEAS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The U.S. Navy is preparing a Supplement to the December 2020 Gulf of Alaska (GOA) Navy Training Activities Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS). This Supplement will address a change in the Study Area and the addition of a new Continental Shelf and Slope Mitigation Area.

Since the release of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS on December 11, 2020 and based on the latest Northern Edge Exercise 2021, the Navy recognized that the size and shape of the GOA Temporary Maritime Activities Area (TMAA) no longer provides sufficient space for the realistic maneuvering of vessels and aircraft during training exercises. Proposed changes to the Study Area include additional airspace and sea space to the west and south of the TMAA. The additional area is referred to as the Western Maneuver Area consisting of approximately 185,806 square nautical miles (see enclosure 1). This additional space enables Navy personnel and units to practice more realistic, complex training scenarios in a safer, more efficient manner that would better prepare them to respond to real-world incidents. The TMAA (approximately 42,146 square nautical miles) remains unchanged and any activities involving active sonar or explosives would as in the past occur in this area only. The Navy is not proposing new or increased training activities in the Western Maneuver Area, only an expansion of the area the Navy may use for vessel and aircraft maneuvering purposes during exercises. The number of vessels, aircraft, underway steaming hours, events, and flight times remains the same.

In response to agency, tribal, and public comments, the Navy also proposes implementing a new mitigation area within the continental shelf and shelf slope area of the TMAA (approximately 14,600 square nautical miles). The Navy would restrict the use of explosives during training (up to 10,000 feet altitude) in this area to protect marine species and biologically important habitat. The Navy anticipates the implementation of the proposed mitigation area would minimize impacts on marine mammals, fish, and marine birds, positively affecting marine species, fisheries, Alaska Native tribes, the regional economy, and the people of Alaska.

The Supplement to the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS is expected to be available for public review and comment in March 2022. Previously submitted comments do not need to be resubmitted as public comments received during the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS comment period (December 11, 2020 – February 16, 2021) are still valid and are being considered in the development of the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

Figure F-22: Stakeholder Notification Letter for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Intent

5090
Ser N46/0112
January 25, 2022

Please visit the project website at www.GOAEIS.com to learn more about the overall project and the Supplement. The Navy will continue to inform and engage the public, stakeholders, and Alaska Native tribes throughout the National Environmental Policy Act process.

We request your help to inform the community about the upcoming release of the Supplement to the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS by sharing this information with your staff and interested individuals.

Sincerely,



A. K. HUTCHISON
Captain, U.S. Navy
By direction

Enclosure: 1. Proposed Changes to the Study Area and New Continental Shelf and Slope Mitigation Area for the Gulf of Alaska Navy Training Activities Supplement to the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS

Figure F-22: Stakeholder Notification Letter for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Intent (continued)

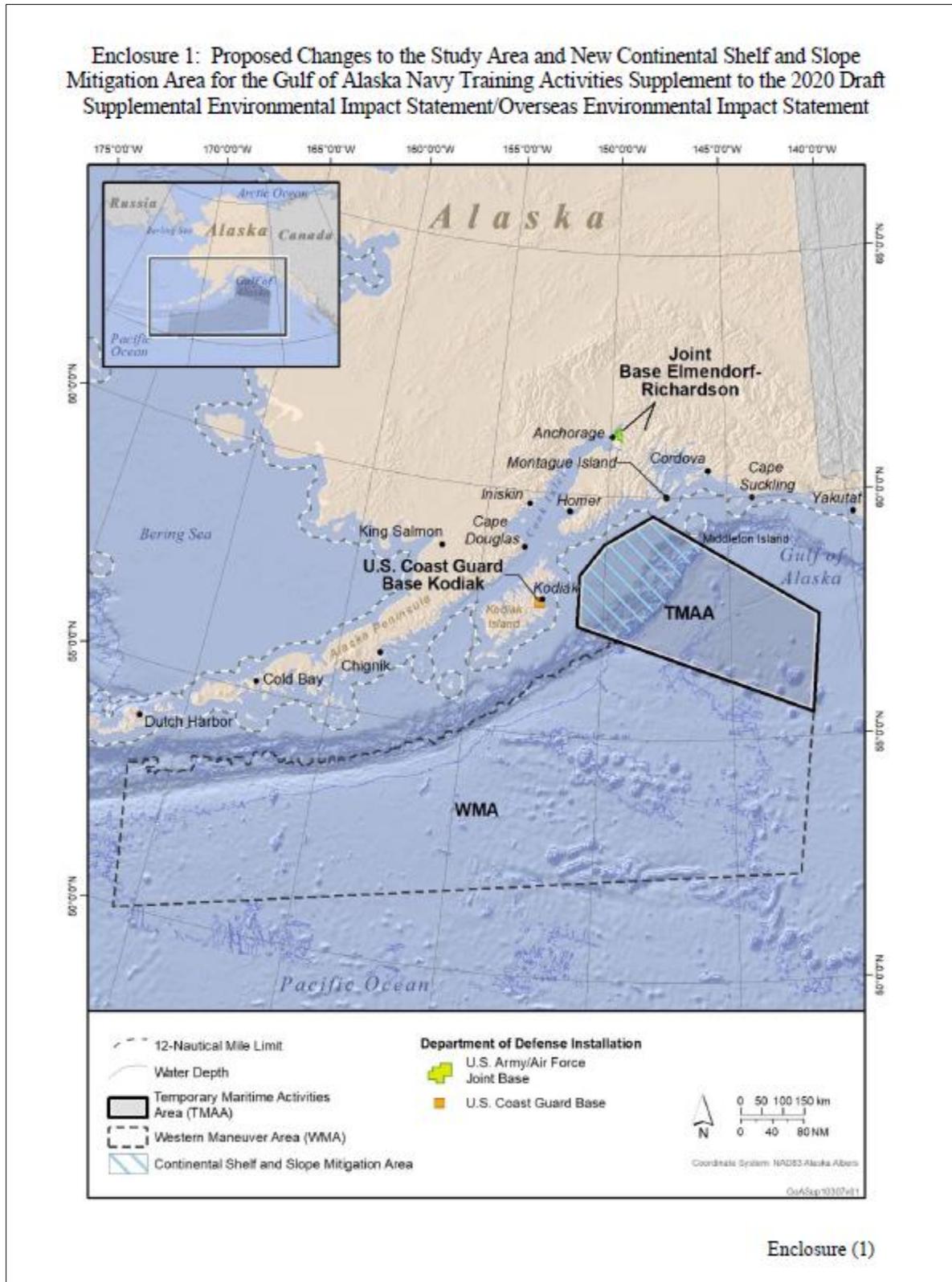


Figure F-22: Stakeholder Notification Letter for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Intent (continued)



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDER
UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
250 MAKALAPA DRIVE
PEARL HARBOR HI 96860-3131

IN REPLY REFER TO:
5090
Ser N46/0271
March 11, 2022

The Honorable Al Cratty, Sr.
Alutiiq Tribe of Old Harbor
P.O. Box 62
Old Harbor, AK 99643

Dear President Cratty, Sr.:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE 2020 GULF OF ALASKA NAVY TRAINING ACTIVITIES DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/OVERSEAS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The U.S. Navy has prepared a Supplement to the December 2020 Gulf of Alaska (GOA) Navy Training Activities Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS), which is now available for review and comment. The Supplement addresses a change in the Study Area and the addition of a new Continental Shelf and Slope Mitigation Area. The Navy welcomes your comments on the Supplement.

Since the release of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS on December 11, 2020, and completion of the Northern Edge 2021 exercise, the Navy recognized that the size and shape of the GOA Temporary Maritime Activities Area (TMAA) no longer provides sufficient space for the realistic maneuvering of vessels and aircraft during training exercises. Proposed changes to the Study Area include additional airspace and sea space to the west and south of the TMAA. The area is referred to as the Western Maneuver Area and adds approximately 185,806 square nautical miles to the Study Area (see enclosure 1). This additional space would enable Navy personnel and units to practice more realistic, complex training scenarios in a safer, more efficient manner that would better prepare them to respond to real-world incidents. The TMAA (approximately 42,146 square nautical miles) would remain unchanged and any activities involving active sonar or explosives would, as in the past, occur in this area only. The Navy is not proposing new or increased number of training activities in the Western Maneuver Area, only an expansion of the area the Navy may use for vessel and aircraft maneuvering purposes during exercises. The number of vessels, aircraft, underway steaming hours, events, and flight times remains the same. Although the Study Area has expanded, the conclusions regarding potential impacts have not significantly changed from the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

In response to agency, tribal, and public comments, the Navy also proposes implementing a new mitigation area within the continental shelf and slope area of the TMAA (approximately 14,600 square nautical miles). The Navy would expand its mitigation measures for explosives detonated at or near the surface and prohibit the use of explosives during training (up to 10,000 feet altitude) in this area to protect marine species and biologically important habitat. The Navy

Figure F-23: Tribal Notification Letter for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability

5090
Ser N46/0271
March 11, 2022

anticipates the implementation of the proposed mitigation area would reduce impacts on marine mammals, fishes, and marine birds.

The Supplement is available on the project website at www.GOAEIS.com, as well as a list of public locations with printed copies of the document. If you need assistance accessing the document, please contact Ms. Julianne Stanford, Navy Region Northwest Public Affairs Office, at julianne.e.stanford.civ@us.navy.mil or 360-867-8525. If you would like additional information or to schedule a project briefing, please contact Ms. Kimberly Kler, GOA Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager, at projectmanager@goaeis.com.

The Navy is accepting comments on the Supplement throughout the public comment period from March 18, 2022, to May 2, 2022. To be considered in the development of the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS, comments must be postmarked or received online by 11:59 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time **May 2, 2022**. All comments submitted during the comment period will become part of the public record and substantive comments will be addressed in the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS. Public comments received during the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS comment period are still valid; previously submitted comments do not need to be resubmitted.

Comments may be submitted online at www.GOAEIS.com or by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Northwest
Attention: GOA Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
1101 Tautog Circle, Suite 203
Silverdale, WA 98315-1101

Please visit the project website at www.GOAEIS.com to learn more about the overall project and the Supplement. The Navy will continue to inform and engage the public, stakeholders, and Alaska Native tribes throughout the National Environmental Policy Act process. We also request your help to inform the community about the availability of the Supplement by sharing this information with your staff and interested individuals.

Sincerely,



A. K. HUTCHISON
Captain, U.S. Navy
By direction

Enclosure: 1. Proposed Changes to the Study Area and New Continental Shelf and Slope Mitigation Area for the Gulf of Alaska Navy Training Activities Supplement to the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS

Figure F-23: Tribal Notification Letter for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability (continued)

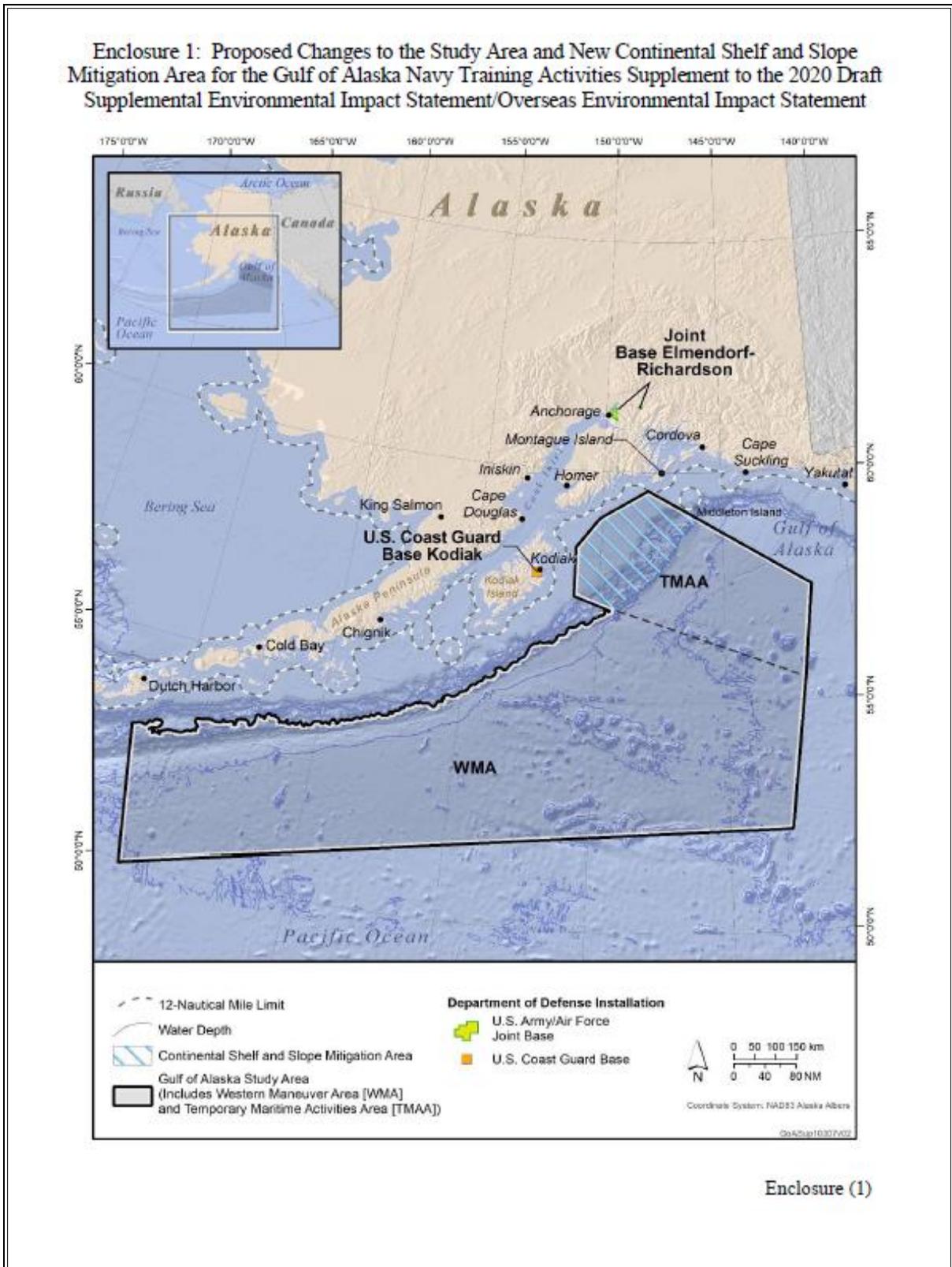


Figure F-23: Tribal Notification Letter for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability (continued)



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

COMMANDER
UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
250 MAHALAPA DRIVE
PEARL HARBOR HI 96860-3131

IN REPLY REFER TO:
5090
Ser N46/0272
March 11, 2022

Dear Sir or Madam:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE SUPPLEMENT TO THE 2020 GULF OF ALASKA NAVY TRAINING ACTIVITIES DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/OVERSEAS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The U.S. Navy has prepared a Supplement to the December 2020 Gulf of Alaska (GOA) Navy Training Activities Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS), which is now available for review and comment. The Supplement addresses a change in the Study Area and the addition of a new Continental Shelf and Slope Mitigation Area. The Navy welcomes your comments on the Supplement.

Since the release of the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS on December 11, 2020, and completion of the Northern Edge 2021 exercise, the Navy recognized that the size and shape of the GOA Temporary Maritime Activities Area (TMAA) no longer provides sufficient space for the realistic maneuvering of vessels and aircraft during training exercises. Proposed changes to the Study Area include additional airspace and sea space to the west and south of the TMAA. The area is referred to as the Western Maneuver Area and adds approximately 185,806 square nautical miles to the Study Area (see enclosure 1). This additional space would enable Navy personnel and units to practice more realistic, complex training scenarios in a safer, more efficient manner that would better prepare them to respond to real-world incidents. The TMAA (approximately 42,146 square nautical miles) would remain unchanged and any activities involving active sonar or explosives would, as in the past, occur in this area only. The Navy is not proposing new or increased number of training activities in the Western Maneuver Area, only an expansion of the area the Navy may use for vessel and aircraft maneuvering purposes during exercises. The number of vessels, aircraft, underway steaming hours, events, and flight times remains the same. Although the Study Area has expanded, the conclusions regarding potential impacts have not significantly changed from the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

In response to agency, tribal, and public comments, the Navy also proposes implementing a new mitigation area within the continental shelf and slope area of the TMAA (approximately 14,600 square nautical miles). The Navy would expand its mitigation measures for explosives detonated at or near the surface and prohibit the use of explosives during training (up to 10,000 feet altitude) in this area to protect marine species and biologically important habitat. The Navy anticipates the implementation of the proposed mitigation area would reduce impacts on marine mammals, fishes, and marine birds.

The Supplement is available on the project website at www.GOAEIS.com, as well as a list of public locations with printed copies of the document. If you need assistance accessing the

Figure F-24: Stakeholder Notification Letter for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability

5090
Ser N46/0272
March 11, 2022

document, please contact Ms. Julianne Stanford, Navy Region Northwest Public Affairs Office, at julianne.e.stanford.civ@us.navy.mil or 360-867-8525. If you would like additional information or to schedule a project briefing, please contact Ms. Kimberly Kler, GOA Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager, at projectmanager@goaeis.com.

The Navy is accepting comments on the Supplement throughout the public comment period from March 18, 2022, to May 2, 2022. To be considered in the development of the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS, comments must be postmarked or received online by 11:59 p.m. Pacific Daylight Time **May 2, 2022**. All comments submitted during the comment period will become part of the public record and substantive comments will be addressed in the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS. Public comments received during the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS comment period are still valid; previously submitted comments do not need to be resubmitted.

Comments may be submitted online at www.GOAEIS.com or by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Northwest
Attention: GOA Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
1101 Tautog Circle, Suite 203
Silverdale, WA 98315-1101

Please visit the project website at www.GOAEIS.com to learn more about the overall project and the Supplement. The Navy will continue to inform and engage the public, stakeholders, and Alaska Native tribes throughout the National Environmental Policy Act process. We also request your help to inform the community about the availability of the Supplement by sharing this information with your staff and interested individuals.

Sincerely,



A. K. HUTCHISON
Captain, U.S. Navy
By direction

Enclosure: 1. Proposed Changes to the Study Area and New Continental Shelf and Slope Mitigation Area for the Gulf of Alaska Navy Training Activities Supplement to the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS

Figure F-24: Stakeholder Notification Letter for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability (continued)

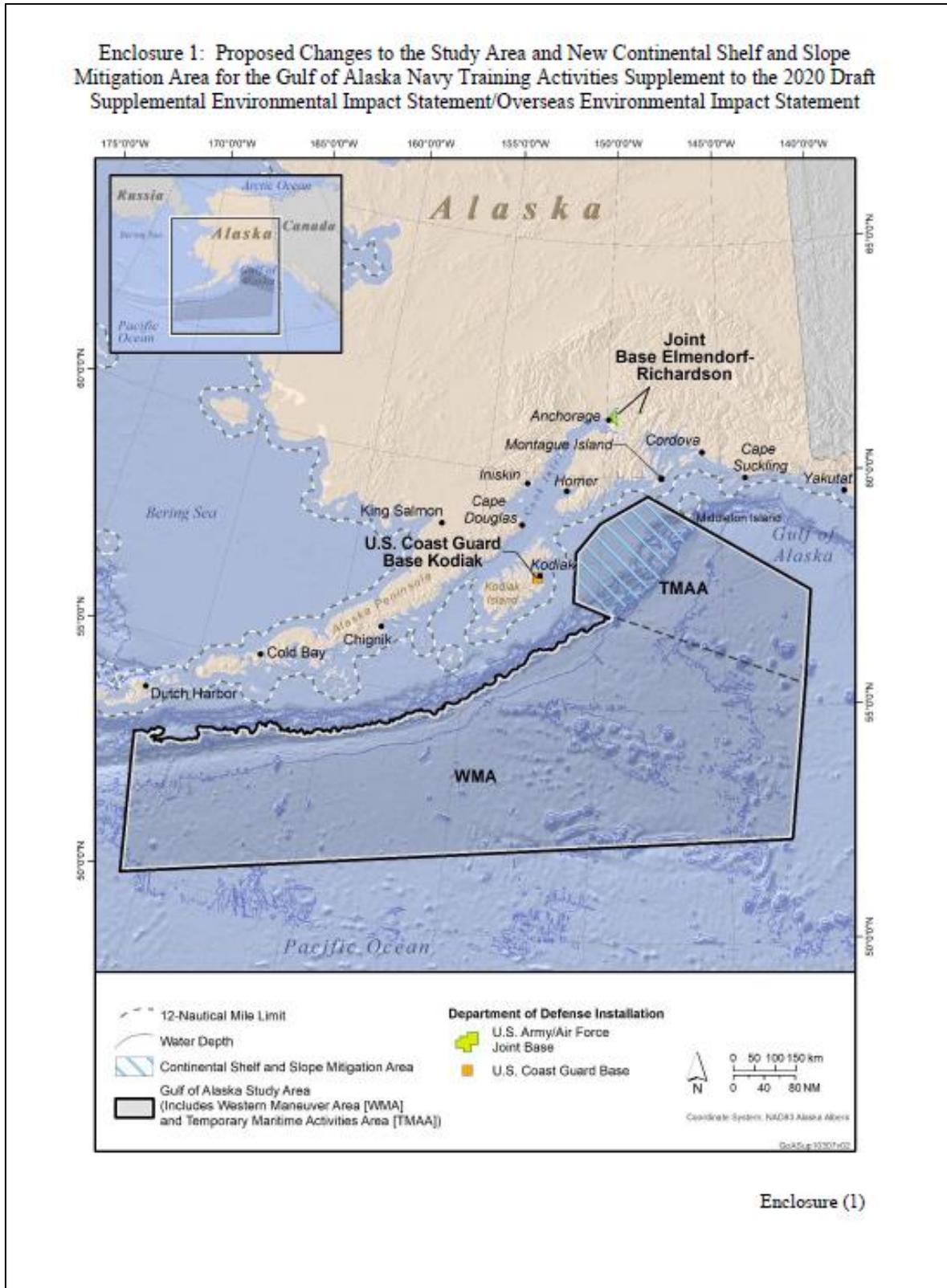


Figure F-24: Stakeholder Notification Letter for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska 2020 Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability (continued)

F.5.1.2 Postcard Mailers

Postcard mailers for the NOI were mailed first-class to 529 individuals, community and business groups, tribal staff, and nongovernmental organizations on February 2, 2022. The postcard provided information on the Navy's intent to prepare a Supplement, a summary of changes, and website address. An example of the postcard mailer is shown in Figure F-25.

Postcard mailers for the NOA were mailed first-class to 521 individuals, community and business groups, tribal staff, and nongovernmental organizations on March 16, 2022. The postcard provided information on the scope and content of the Supplement, how to submit a comment, and website address. An example of the postcard mailer is shown in Figure F-26.

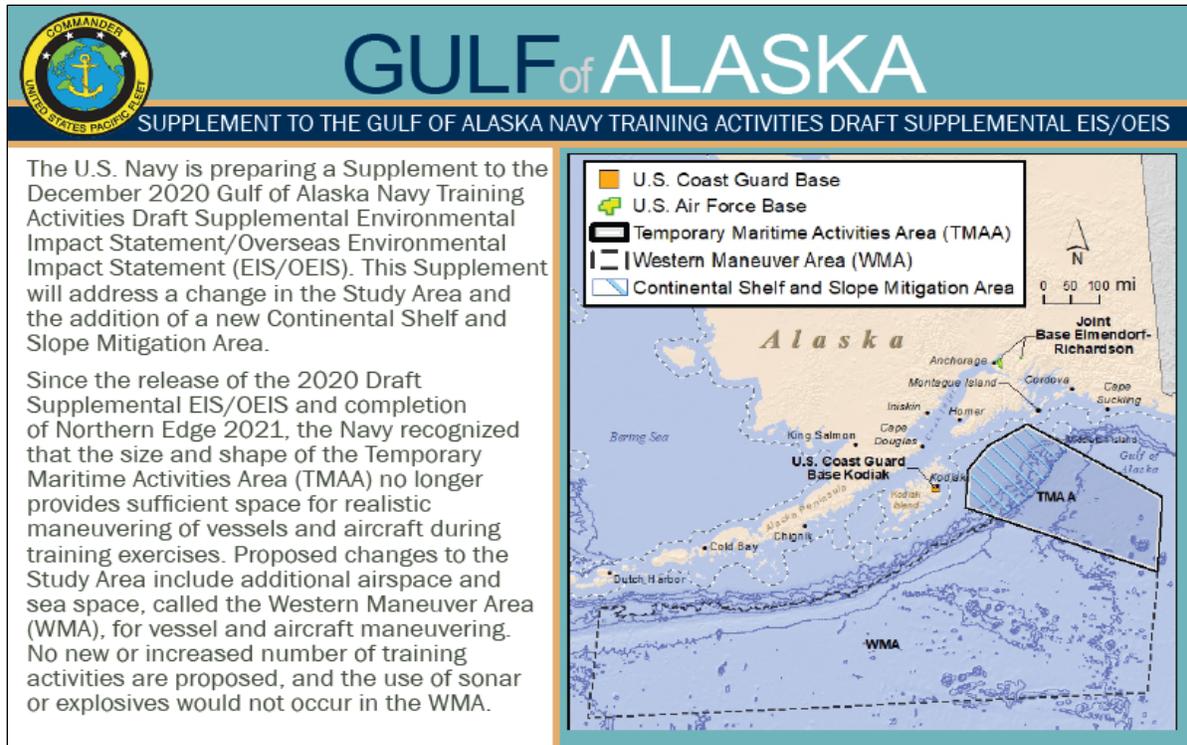


Figure F-25: Postcard Mailer for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Intent (Front)



Figure F-25: Postcard Mailer for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Intent (Back)

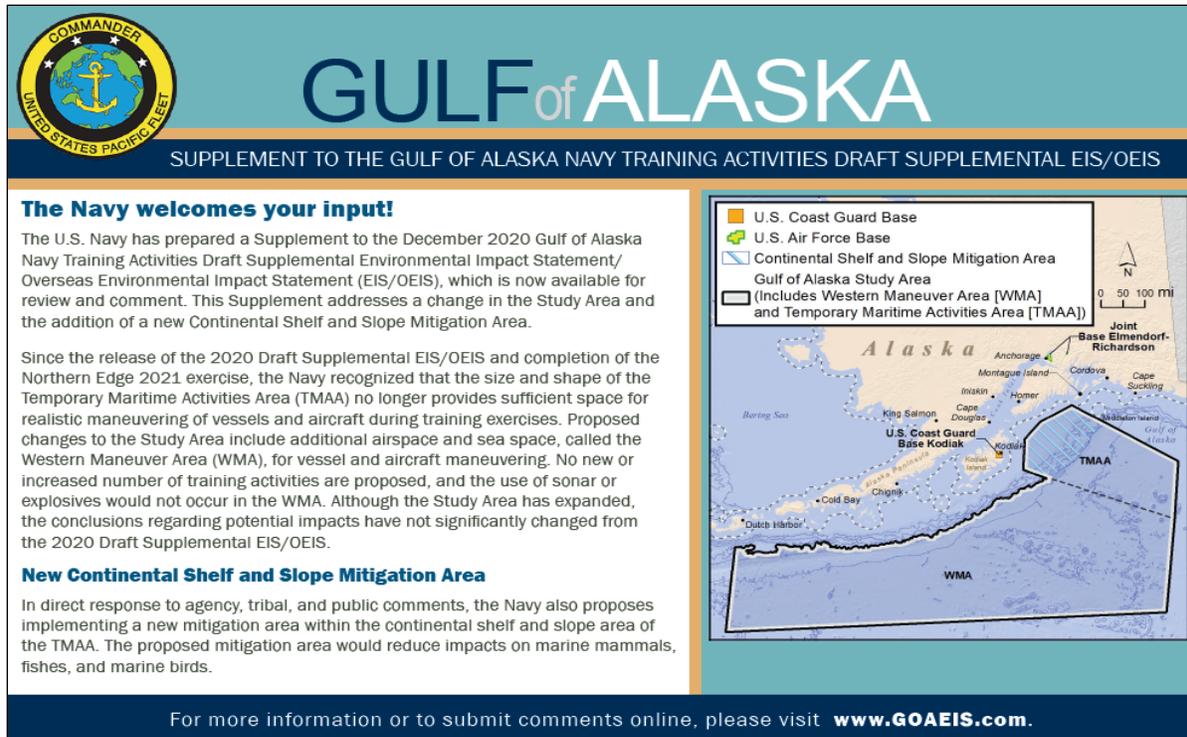


Figure F-26: Postcard Mailer for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability (Front)



Figure F-26: Postcard Mailer for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability (Back)

F.5.1.3 Newspaper Advertisements

Legal and display advertisements were placed in five local Alaskan newspapers to advertise the Notice of Intent and Notice of Availability of the Supplement to the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS.

The NOI legal advertisement included notice of the Navy’s intent to prepare a Supplement to the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS, description of the expanded Study Area, a summary of the Proposed Action, and the website address. The NOA display advertisement included notification of the availability of the Supplement to the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS, how to access the document, description of the expanded Study Area, a summary of the Proposed Action, public commenting information, and the website address. The newspapers and publication dates are listed in Table F-10. Examples of the advertisements are shown in Figure F-27 and Figure F-28.

Table F-10: Newspaper Publications for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Intent and Notice of Availability

<u>Newspaper</u>	<u>Regional Coverage and Publication Frequency</u>	<u>NOI Publication Dates (Legal Advertisement)</u>	<u>NOA Publication Dates Display Advertisement</u>
<i>Anchorage Daily News</i>	Anchorage, AK Daily except Saturday	Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2022	Friday, March 18, 2022 Sunday, March 20, 2022 Monday, March 21, 2022
<i>Juneau Empire (Sound Publishing)</i>	Juneau, Alaska, Southeastern Alaska Tuesday–Friday and Sunday	Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2022	Friday, March 18, 2022 Sunday, March 20, 2022 Tuesday, March 22, 2022
<i>Kodiak Daily Mirror</i>	Kodiak, Alaska Monday–Friday only	Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2022	Friday, March 18, 2022 Monday, March 21, 2022 Tuesday, March 22, 2022
<i>Peninsula Clarion (Sound Publishing)</i>	Kenai-Soldotna Area Alaska Tuesday–Friday and Sunday	Tuesday, Feb. 1, 2022	Friday, March 18, 2022 Sunday, March 20, 2022 Tuesday, March 22, 2022
<i>Cordova Times</i>	Cordova and Prince William Sound Alaska Fridays only	Friday, Feb. 4, 2022	Friday, March 18, 2022 Friday, March 25, 2022 Friday, April 1, 2022

Notes: NOA = Notice of Availability; NOI = Notice of Intent

**U.S. Navy to Prepare Supplement
to the Gulf of Alaska Draft
Supplemental EIS/OEIS**

The Navy is preparing a Supplement to the December 2020 Gulf of Alaska Navy Training Activities Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS). This Supplement will address a change in the Study Area and the addition of a new Continental Shelf and Slope Mitigation Area. The Navy recognized that the current training area no longer provides sufficient space for realistic maneuvering of vessels and aircraft during training exercises. The proposed Western Maneuver Area would include additional airspace and sea space for vessel and aircraft maneuvering. No new or increased number of training activities are proposed. The proposed mitigation area would minimize impacts on marine mammals, fish, and marine birds. The Supplement is expected to be available in March 2022 for public review and comment.

*For more information, please visit
www.GOAEIS.com.*

10/20/21

**Figure F-27: Legal Advertisement for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft
SEIS/OEIS Notice of Intent**



The U.S. Navy Invites You to Participate in the Gulf of Alaska Navy Training Activities Supplement to the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS Public Involvement Process

The Navy prepared a Supplement to the December 2020 Gulf of Alaska Navy Training Activities Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS), which is now available for review and comment. This Supplement addresses a change in the Study Area and the addition of a new Continental Shelf and Slope Mitigation Area. The Navy recognized that the current training area no longer provides sufficient space for realistic maneuvering of vessels and aircraft during training exercises. The proposed Western Maneuver Area would include additional airspace and sea space for vessel and aircraft maneuvering. The proposed mitigation area would reduce impacts on marine mammals, fishes, and marine birds. Although the Study Area has expanded, the conclusions regarding potential impacts have not significantly changed from the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

Public Involvement

The Navy welcomes substantive comments on the Supplement. Comments may be submitted online at www.GOAEIS.com or by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Northwest
Attention: GOA Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
1101 Tautog Circle, Suite 203
Silverdale, WA 98315-1101

To be considered in the development of the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS, comments must be postmarked or received online by 11:59 p.m. PDT May 2, 2022. Public comments received during the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS comment period are still valid; previously submitted comments do not need to be resubmitted.

Supplement to the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS

The Supplement is available at www.GOAEIS.com, as well as a list of public locations with printed copies. If you need assistance accessing the document, please contact Ms. Julianne Stanford, Navy Region Northwest Public Affairs Office, at julianne.e.stanford.civ@us.navy.mil or 360-867-8525.

Figure F-28: Display Advertisement for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability

F.5.1.4 Media Outreach and Social Media Notices

Commander, Navy Region Northwest Public Affairs Office distributed a news release to local, regional, and national print and broadcast (radio and television) media February 1, 2022, for the NOI, and March 18, 2022, for the NOA. A Facebook post was published February 1, 2022, for the NOI, and March 18, 2022, for the NOA, on the Commander, Navy Region Northwest Facebook page. The NOI news release and Facebook post included notice of the Navy’s intent to prepare a Supplement to the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS, description of the expanded Study Area, a summary of the Proposed Action, and the website address. The NOA news release and Facebook post included notification of the availability of the Supplement to the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS, how to access the document, description of the expanded Study Area, a summary of the Proposed Action, public commenting information, and the website address. Examples of the news releases are shown in Figure F-29, Figure F-11 and Figure F-30 and examples of the Facebook posts are shown in Figure F-31 and Figure F-32.



COMMANDER, NAVY REGION NORTHWEST

Public Affairs Office

1100 Hunley Road, Silverdale, WA 98315-1100
Phone: (360) 867-8525 Fax: (360) 396-7127

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Release #22-0201

Feb. 1, 2022

NAVY ANNOUNCES INTENT TO PREPARE A SUPPLEMENT TO THE GULF OF ALASKA NAVY TRAINING ACTIVITIES DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/ OVERSEAS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

SILVERDALE, Wash — The U.S. Navy is preparing a Supplement to the December 2020 Gulf of Alaska (GOA) Navy Training Activities Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS).

Since the release of the GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS in December 2020 and completion of Exercise Northern Edge 2021, the Navy recognized that the size and shape of the Temporary Maritime Activities Area (TMAA) no longer provides sufficient space for the realistic maneuvering of vessels and aircraft during training exercises. This Supplement will address a change to the Study Area to include more space for maneuvering vessels and aircraft in the GOA and the addition of a new mitigation area within the continental shelf and shelf slope area of the existing TMAA.

In the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, the Navy is proposing to continue periodic military training activities within the GOA. The Navy is preparing the Supplemental EIS/OEIS to support the renewal of the federal regulatory permits and authorizations required for these activities under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act, which expire in April 2022.

The analysis in the SEIS/OEIS will be updated with the proposed changes in the 2022 Supplement, including the additional maneuvering space and shelf mitigation area.

Key Updates Proposed in the 2022 Supplement to the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS:

Proposed changes to the Study Area include additional airspace and sea space to the west and south of the TMAA. This additional area is referred to as the Western Maneuver Area (WMA) and it is approximately 185,806 square nautical miles.

The TMAA, which is approximately 42,146 square nautical miles, would remain unchanged with all activities involving active sonar and explosives still occurring in this area only. No new or increased training activities are proposed as part of the revised proposed action. Proposed activities in the WMA would be limited to those associated with coordinated vessel movements and aircraft overflights.

The additional space gained in the proposed WMA would enable Navy personnel and units to practice more realistic, complex training scenarios in a safer, more efficient manner that would better prepare them to respond to real-world incidents.

Additionally, in direct response to agency, tribal, and public comments, the Navy is also proposing to implement a new mitigation area within the continental shelf and shelf slope area of the TMAA. This new mitigation area would be approximately 14,600 square nautical miles.

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Figure F-29: Commander, Navy Region Northwest News Release for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Intent

GOA SUPPLEMENT TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL EIS/OEIS -2-

The Navy would restrict the use of explosives in this area during training, up to 10,000 feet altitude, to protect marine species and biologically important habitat. The Navy anticipates the implementation of the proposed mitigation area would minimize impacts on marine mammals, fish species including salmon, and marine birds.

Public Involvement:

A supplement to the Draft SEIS/OEIS with analysis of the potential environmental effects associated with these proposed additions is expected to be available for public review and a 45-day comment period in March 2022. Information obtained during the comment period will be considered in preparation of the Final SEIS/OEIS.

Public comments received during the 2020 Draft SEIS/OEIS comment period are still valid and are being considered in the development of the Final SEIS/OEIS. Previously submitted comments do not need to be resubmitted.

No decision will be made to implement any alternative in the GOA Study Area until the National Environmental Policy Act process is complete and a Record of Decision is signed by the Navy.

Visit the project website at www.GOAEIS.com to learn more about the overall project and the Supplement.

Media seeking further information should contact Ms. Julianne Stanford with the Navy Region Northwest Public Affairs Office at julianne.stanford@navy.mil or 360-867-8525.

Please help inform your community by sharing the information in this news release.

-USN-

Figure F-29: Commander, Navy Region Northwest News Release for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Intent (continued)



COMMANDER, NAVY REGION NORTHWEST

Public Affairs Office
1100 Hunley Road, Silverdale, WA 98315-1100
Phone: (360) 396-1630 Fax: (360) 396-7127

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Release #22-0318

March 18, 2022

NAVY RELEASES SUPPLEMENT TO THE GULF OF ALASKA NAVY TRAINING ACTIVITIES DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL EIS/OEIS FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT

SILVERDALE, Wash — The U.S. Navy has prepared a Supplement to the December 2020 Gulf of Alaska (GOA) Navy Training Activities Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS/OEIS).

The Supplement is now available for public review and comment through May 2, 2022.

Since the release of the GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS in December 2020 and completion of Exercise Northern Edge 2021, the Navy recognized that the size and shape of the existing training area in the Gulf of Alaska, known as the Temporary Maritime Activities Area (TMAA), no longer provides sufficient space for the realistic maneuvering of vessels and aircraft during training exercises.

The Supplement proposes to include more space available for maneuvering vessels and aircraft in the GOA and the addition of a new mitigation area within the continental shelf and slope area of the TMAA.

The Supplement updates the analysis in the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS and will be used to develop a Final EIS/OEIS.

In the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS, the Navy is proposing to continue periodic military training activities within the GOA. The Navy is preparing the Supplemental EIS/OEIS to support the renewal of the federal regulatory permits and authorizations required for these activities under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act, which expire in April 2022.

Key Updates Made in the 2022 Supplement to the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS:

In the Supplement, the Navy analyzed the potential impacts associated with activities in the expanded Study Area. Although the Study Area has expanded, the conclusions regarding potential impacts have not significantly changed from the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

Proposed changes to the Study Area include the addition of airspace and sea space to the west and south of the TMAA. This additional area is referred to as the Western Maneuver Area (WMA) and it is approximately 185,806 square nautical miles. The TMAA, which is approximately 42,146 square nautical miles, would remain unchanged and all activities involving active sonar and explosives would still occur in this area only.

The Navy is not proposing new or increased number of training activities in the WMA, only an expansion of the area the Navy may use for vessel and aircraft maneuvering purposes during exercises. The number of vessels, aircraft, underway steaming hours, events, and flight times remain

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Figure F-30: Commander, Navy Region Northwest News Release for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability

GOA SUPPLEMENT TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL EIS/OEIS -2-

the same. The use of sonar or explosives would not occur in the WMA.

The additional space gained in the proposed WMA would enable Navy personnel and units to practice more realistic, complex training scenarios in a safer, more efficient manner that would better prepare them to respond to real-world incidents.

Additionally, in direct response to agency, tribal, and public comments, the Navy is also proposing to implement a new mitigation area within the continental shelf and slope area of the TMAA. This new mitigation area would be approximately 14,600 square nautical miles.

The Navy would expand its mitigation measures for explosives detonated at or near the surface and prohibit the use of explosives during training, up to 10,000 feet altitude, in areas of less than 4,000 meter depth to protect marine species and biologically important habitat. The Navy anticipates the implementation of the proposed mitigation area would reduce impacts on marine mammals, fish species including salmon, and marine birds.

Availability of the Supplement and public comment period:

The Supplement is now available for public review and comment through May 2, 2022. Visit the project website at www.GOAEIS.com to download the Supplement, view project information, and submit substantive comments online. Comments may also be submitted by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Northwest
Attention: GOA Supplemental EIS/OEIS Project Manager
1101 Tautog Circle, Suite 203
Silverdale, WA 98315-1101

Comments must be postmarked or received online by 11:59 p.m. PDT May 2, 2022, for consideration in the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

All comments received during the public review and comment period will be considered and acknowledged or responded to in the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS. Previously submitted comments for the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS do not need to be resubmitted.

No decision will be made to implement any alternative in the GOA Study Area until the National Environmental Policy Act process is complete and a Record of Decision is signed by the Navy.

Media seeking further information should contact Ms. Julianne Stanford with the Navy Region Northwest Public Affairs Office at julianne.stanford@navy.mil or 360-867-8525.

Please help inform your community by sharing the information in this news release.

-more-

Figure F-30: Commander, Navy Region Northwest News Release for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability (continued)

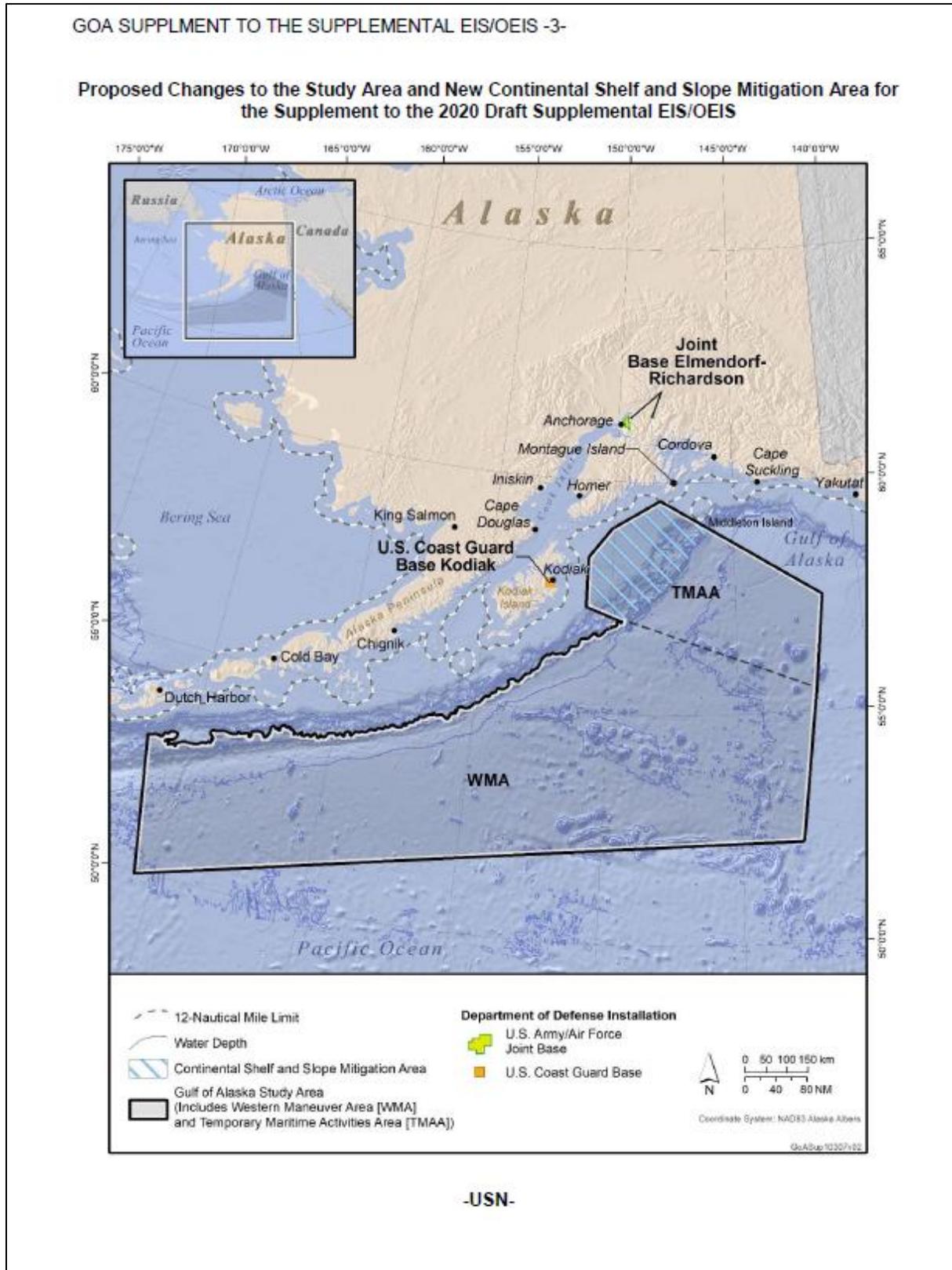
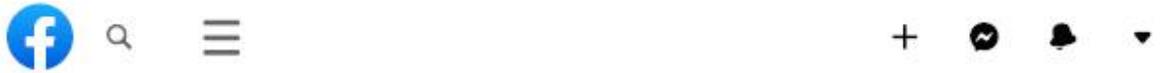


Figure F-30: Commander, Navy Region Northwest News Release for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability (continued)



U.S. Navy Region Northwest
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The U.S. Navy is preparing a Supplement to the December 2020 Gulf of Alaska (GOA) Navy Training Activities Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS).

Since the release of the GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS in December 2020 and completion of Exercise Northern Edge 2021, the Navy recognized that the size and shape of the Temporary Maritime Activities Area (TMAA) no longer provides sufficient space for realistic vessel and aircraft maneuvering during training exercises.

This Supplement proposes to include additional maneuvering space to the west and south of the TMAA in an area referred to as the Western Maneuver Area, which is approximately 185,806 square nautical miles. The TMAA, which is approximately 42,146 square nautical miles, would remain unchanged with all activities involving active sonar and explosives still occurring in this area only. No new or increased training activities are proposed as part of the revised proposed action, only an expansion of the overall training area for vessel and aircraft maneuvering purposes. The Navy is also proposing to implement a new mitigation area within the continental shelf and shelf slope area of the existing TMAA to better protect marine species and biologically important habitat.

The Supplement is expected to be available for public review and comment in March 2022.

Visit the project website at www.GOAEIS.com to learn more about the overall project and the Supplement.



Figure F-31: Commander, Navy Region Northwest Facebook Post for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Intent



Figure F-32: Commander, Navy Region Northwest Facebook Post for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Notice of Availability

F.5.1.5 Website Subscriber Email Notification for the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement.

Email notifications were sent to website subscribers on the following dates:

- February 1, 2022: Navy to Prepare Supplement to 2020 GOA Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS.
- March 18, 2022: Navy Supplement to 2020 GOA Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS Available for Review and Comment.

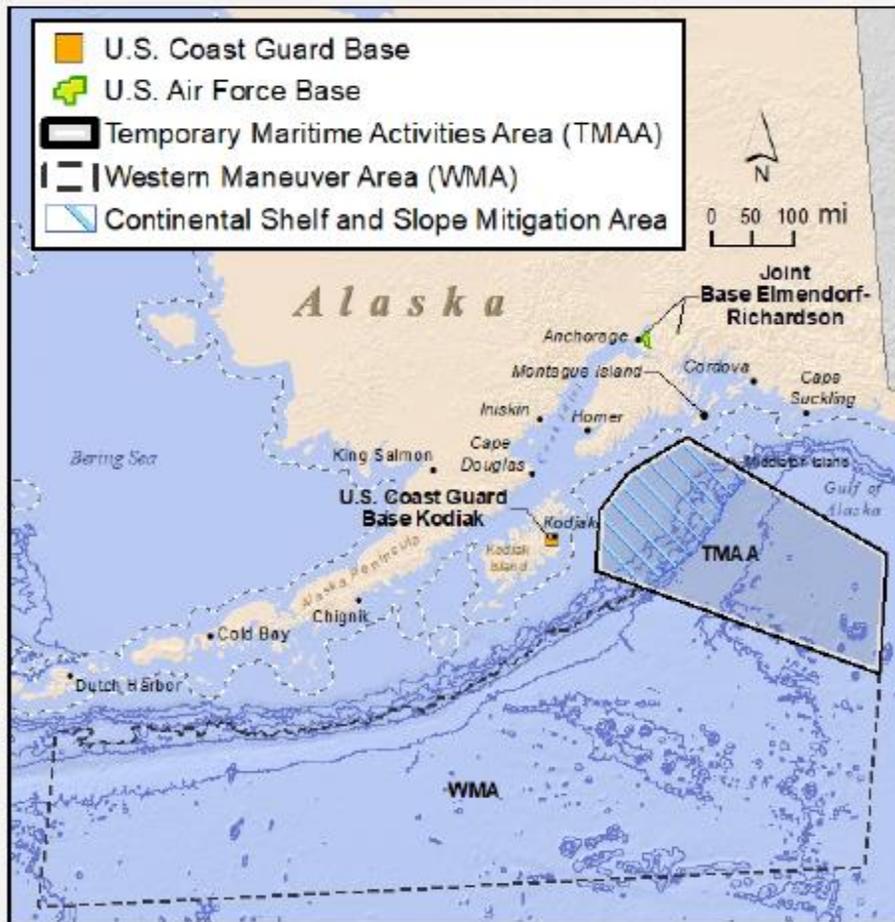
The website subscriber email notifications are shown in Figure F-33 and Figure F-20. As of March 2022, there were 52 website subscribers.



Figure F-33: Subscriber Email Notification for the Notice to Prepare a Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS

The additional area is referred to as the Western Maneuver Area and is approximately 185,806 square nautical miles.

The Navy is not proposing new or increased number of training activities in the Western Maneuver Area, only an expansion of the area the Navy may use for vessel and aircraft maneuvering purposes during exercises. There would be no increase in the number of vessels or aircraft, underway steaming hours, events, or flight times. The use of sonar or explosives would not occur in the Western Maneuver Area.



Proposed Changes to the Gulf of Alaska Study Area

NEW CONTINENTAL SHELF AND SLOPE MITIGATION AREA

Figure F-33: Subscriber Email Notification for the Notice to Prepare a Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS (continued)

In direct response to agency, tribal, and public comments, the Navy also proposes implementing a [new mitigation area within the continental shelf and shelf slope area of the TMAA](#). The Navy would restrict the use of explosives during training (up to 10,000 feet altitude) in this area. The proposed mitigation area would minimize impacts on marine mammals, fish, and marine birds and would be positive for marine species, fisheries, Alaska Native tribes, the regional economy, and the people of Alaska.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The Supplement is expected to be available for public review and comment in March 2022. Public comments received during the 2020 Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS comment period are still valid and are being considered in the development of the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS. Previously submitted comments do not need to be resubmitted.

Please visit the project website at www.GOAEIS.com to learn more about the overall project and the Supplement.

The Navy is committed to keeping the public informed throughout the National Environmental Policy Act process. Thank you for your continued interest and participation in this important project.

Gulf of Alaska Navy Training Activities Supplemental EIS/OEIS

<https://www.GOAEIS.com>

[unsubscribe from this list](#)

Figure F-33: Subscriber Email Notification for the Notice to Prepare a Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS (continued)

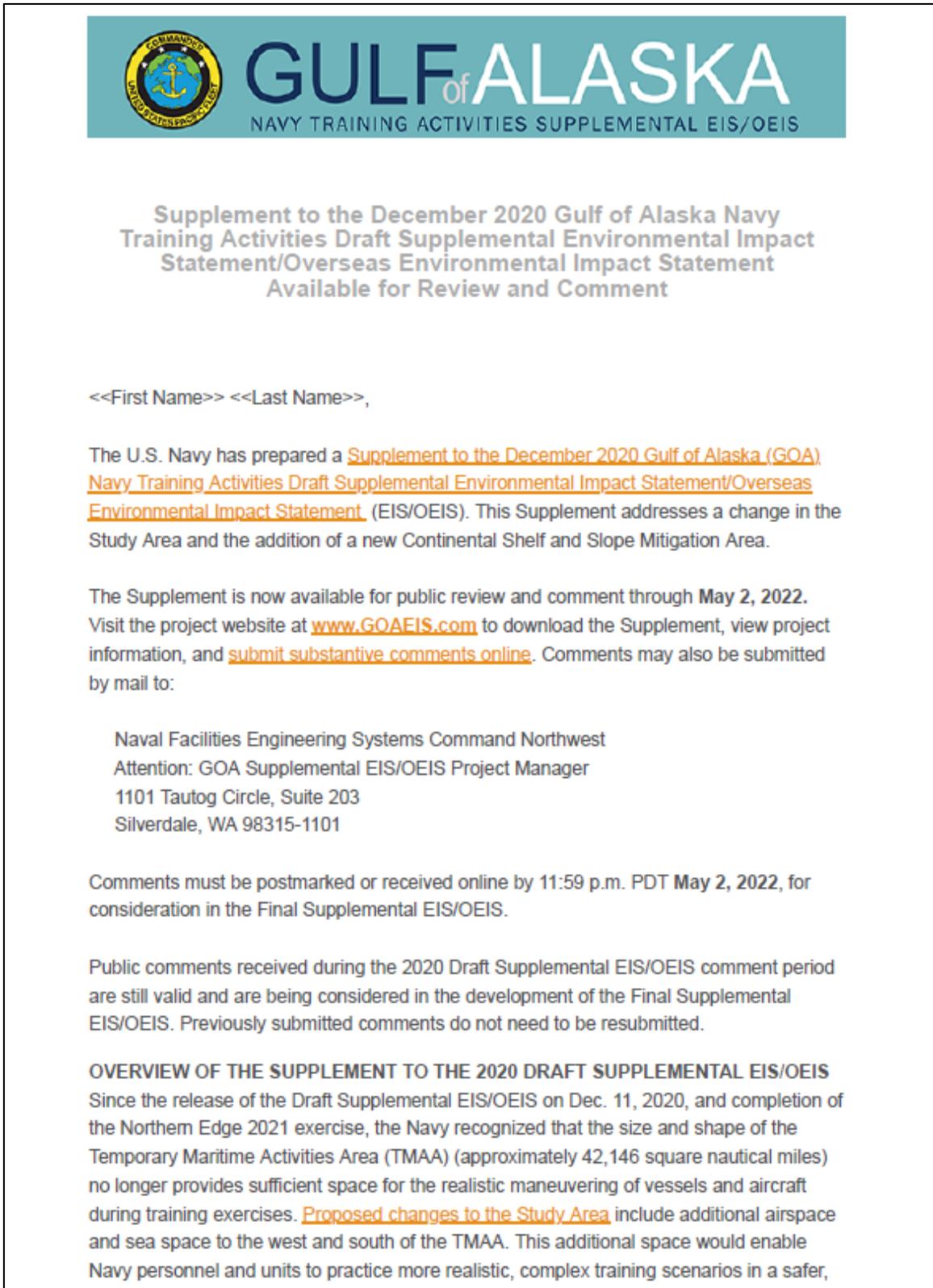


Figure F-34: Subscriber Email Notification for the Availability of the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS

more efficient manner that would better prepare them to respond to real-world incidents. The additional area is referred to as the Western Maneuver Area and adds approximately 185,806 square nautical miles to the Study Area.

The Navy is not proposing new or increased number of training activities in the Western Maneuver Area, only an expansion of the area the Navy may use for vessel and aircraft maneuvering purposes during exercises. The number of vessels, aircraft, underway steaming hours, events, and flight times remains the same. The use of sonar or explosives would not occur in the Western Maneuver Area.

NEW CONTINENTAL SHELF AND SLOPE MITIGATION AREA

In direct response to agency, tribal, and public comments, the Navy also proposes implementing a new mitigation area within the continental shelf and slope area of the TMAA. The Navy would expand its mitigation measures for explosives detonated at or near the surface and prohibit the use of explosives during training (up to 10,000 feet altitude) in this area to protect marine species and biologically important habitat. The Navy anticipates the implementation of the proposed mitigation area would reduce impacts on marine mammals, fishes, and marine birds.

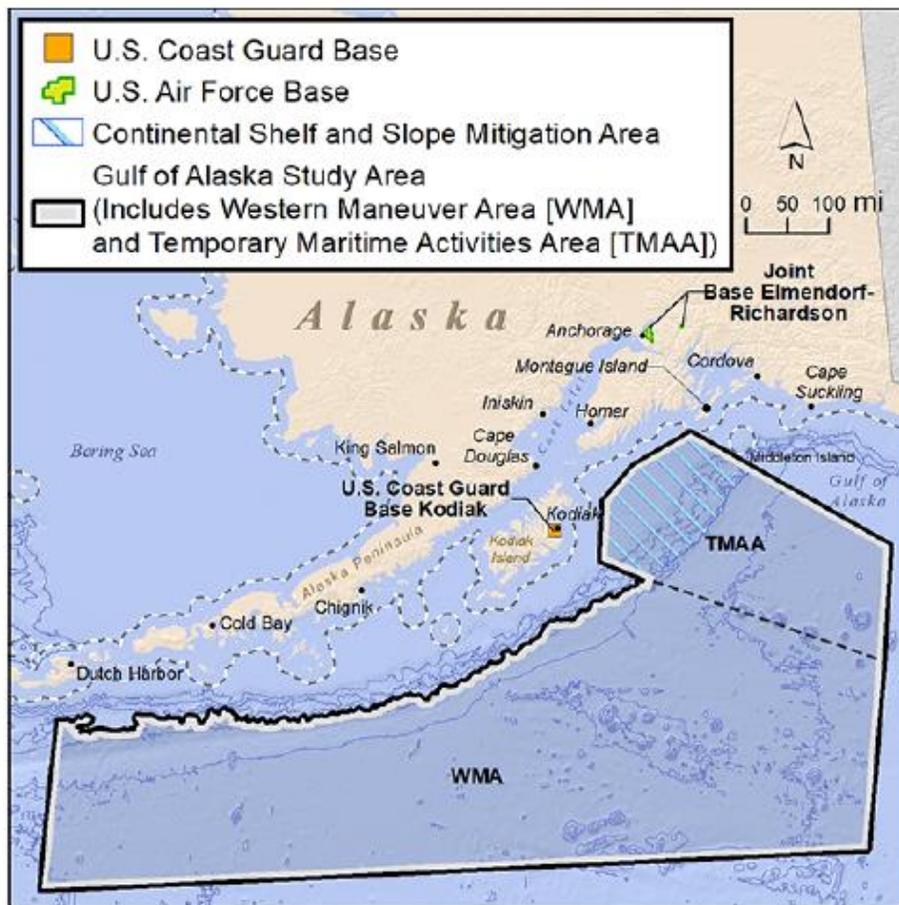


Figure F-34: Subscriber Email Notification for the Availability of the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS (continued)

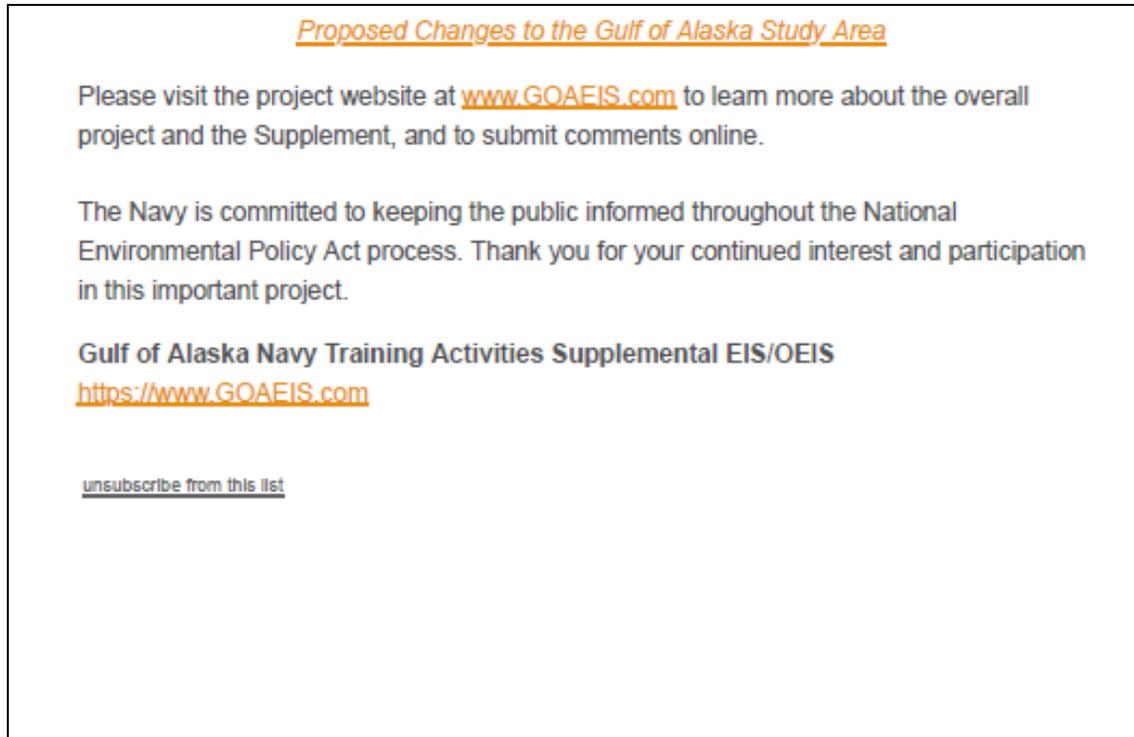


Figure F-34: Subscriber Email Notification for the Availability of the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS (continued)

F.5.2 Expanded Public Outreach

Expanded outreach continued throughout the development of the Supplement to the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS to ensure stakeholders were informed. Outreach events are shown in Table F-11.

Table F-11: Expanded Public Outreach Conducted During the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Public Review Period

Stakeholders	Conducted By	Format of Outreach	Date
Alaska Federation of Natives	U.S. Pacific Fleet NAVFAC Northwest	Exhibitor booth (virtual)	Dec. 13-15, 2021
Alaska Marine Science Symposium	U.S. Pacific Fleet NAVFAC Northwest	Poster presentation on Navy-funded satellite tagging of Chinook salmon in the Gulf of Alaska (virtual)	Jan. 25-27, 2022
Alaska Forum on the Environment	U.S. Pacific Fleet NAVFAC Northwest	Exhibitor booth, including a presentation during Military Training in Alaska panel (virtual)	Feb. 7-10, 2022
ComFish Alaska	U.S. Pacific Fleet NAVFAC Northwest	Stewards of the Sea Outreach booth (in-person)	Mar. 24-26, 2022

Notes: AK = Alaska; NAVFAC = Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command; R = Republican; U.S. = United States

F.6 Distribution of the Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement

All of the parties notified of the availability of the Supplement to the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS were directed to view the document electronically on the project website (www.GOAEIS.com), or to access printed and CD/DVD copies available at the information repositories discussed in Section F.6.2 (Information Repositories). All public notices provided the contact information for the Navy Region Northwest Public Affairs Officer if the public needed assistance accessing the document.

F.6.1 Federal Agencies

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency received an electronic version of the Supplement to the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS. The National Marine Fisheries Service headquarters office received printed and electronic copies of the Supplement to the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS.

F.6.2 Information Repositories

The Supplement to the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS was mailed in printed copy form, along with a CD/DVD, to the information repository locations shown in Table F-12.

Table F-12: Supplement to the 2020 Gulf of Alaska Draft SEIS/OEIS Information Repositories

Repository Name	Physical Address
Alaska State Library	395 Whittier St., Juneau, Alaska 99801
Copper Valley Community Library	Mile 186 Glenn Hwy., Glennallen, Alaska 99588
Cordova Public Library	601 First St., Cordova, Alaska 99574
Homer Public Library	500 Hazel Ave., Homer, Alaska 99603
Kodiak Public Library	612 Egan Way, Kodiak, Alaska 99615
Seward Community Library	239 Sixth Ave., Seward, Alaska 99664
University of Alaska Fairbanks/Elmer E. Rasmuson Library	310 Tanana Loop, Fairbanks, Alaska 99775
Z.J. Loussac Library	3600 Denali St., Anchorage, Alaska 99503

F.7 2022 Gulf of Alaska Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement

This 2022 GOA Final SEIS/OEIS includes updates and revisions to the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS, including the analysis and conclusions from the 2022 Supplement to the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS, as well as a complete set of all substantive comments received on the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS and 2022 Supplement to the 2020 GOA Draft SEIS/OEIS. The Navy’s responses to such comments can be found in Appendix G (Public Comments and Responses). Response to public comments may also take other forms, including correction of data, clarifications of and modifications to analytical approaches, and inclusion of additional data or analysis in the 2022 GOA Final SEIS/OEIS.

A 30-day waiting period will follow the issuance of the 2022 GOA Final SEIS/OEIS. The Navy will sign a Record of Decision (ROD) after consideration of the 2022 GOA Final SEIS/OEIS and public comments. The Navy will publish a Notice of Availability of the ROD in the *Federal Register*; distribute the ROD to Alaska Native federally recognized tribes, agencies, interested parties, and local newspapers; and post it on the project website. The ROD will document the Navy’s final decision on the Proposed Action, the rationale behind that decision, and any commitments to mitigation and monitoring.

F.7.1 Distribution of the 2022 Gulf of Alaska Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement

All of the parties notified of the availability of the 2022 GOA Final SEIS/OEIS were directed to view the document electronically on the project website (www.GOAEIS.com), or to access printed and CD/DVD copies available at the information repositories discussed in Section F.7.2 (Information Repositories). All public notices provided the contact information for the Navy Region Northwest Public Affairs Officer if the public needed assistance accessing the document. Chairpersons, presidents, or chiefs of Alaska Native federally recognized tribes will receive a CD/DVD copy of the 2022 GOA Final SEIS/OEIS.

F.7.2 Federal Agencies

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency received an electronic version of the 2022 GOA Final SEIS/OEIS. The National Marine Fisheries Service headquarters office received printed and electronic copies of the 2022 GOA Final SEIS/OEIS. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service headquarters office received electronic copies of the 2022 GOA Final SEIS/OEIS.

F.7.3 Information Repositories

The 2022 GOA Final SEIS/OEIS was mailed in printed copy form, along with a CD/DVD, to the information repository locations shown in Table F-8.

Table F-13: Final SEIS/OEIS Information Repositories

Repository Name	Physical Address
Alaska State Library	395 Whittier St., Juneau, Alaska 99801
Copper Valley Community Library	Mile 186 Glenn Hwy., Glennallen, Alaska 99588
Cordova Public Library	601 First St., Cordova, Alaska 99574
Homer Public Library	500 Hazel Ave., Homer, Alaska 99603
Kodiak Public Library	612 Egan Way, Kodiak, Alaska 99615
Seward Community Library	239 Sixth Ave., Seward, Alaska 99664
University of Alaska Fairbanks/Elmer E. Rasmuson Library	310 Tanana Loop, Fairbanks, Alaska 99775
Z.J. Loussac Library	3600 Denali St., Anchorage, Alaska 99503

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