APPENDIX L AGENCY CORRESPONDENCE

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Draft

Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/ Overseas Environmental Impact Statement Atlantic Fleet Training and Testing

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L AGENCY CORRESPONDENCEL-1

List of Figures

This appendix does not contain figures.

List of Tables

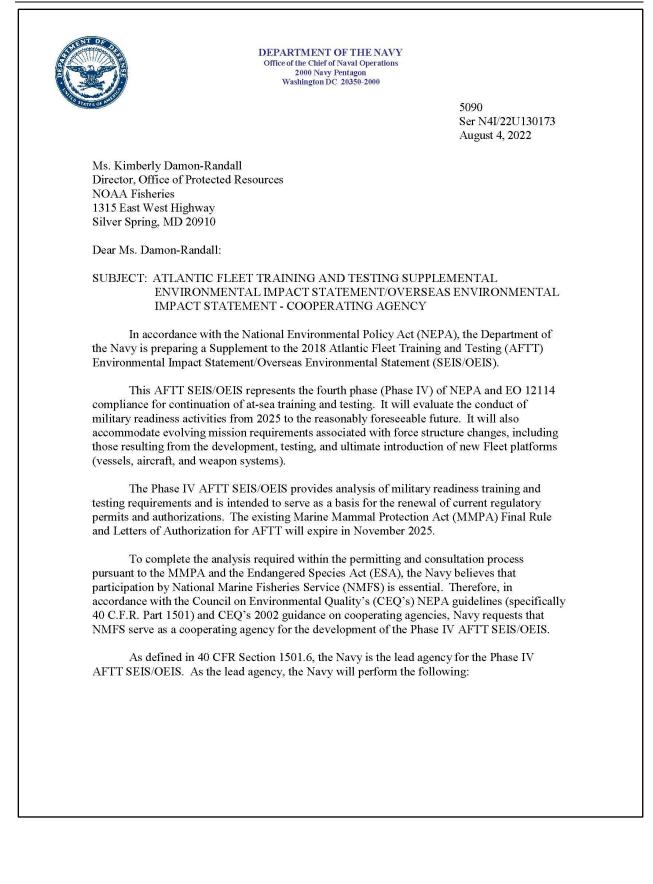
This appendix does not contain tables.

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L AGENCY CORRESPONDENCE

Appendix L contains correspondence between the Navy and federal or state agencies with respect to cooperating agency status.

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5090 Ser N4I/22U130173 August 4, 2022 Gather all necessary background information and prepare all permit applications associated with the proposed action. • Work with NMFS personnel to determine the method of estimating potential effects to protected marine species, including threatened and endangered species. Determine the scope of the AFTT SEIS/OEIS, including the alternatives evaluated. Circulate the NEPA document to the public and other interested parties. Schedule and supervise meetings held in support of the NEPA process and compile comments received from the public. Maintain an administrative record and respond to any Freedom of Information Act • requests relating to the AFTT SEIS/OEIS. Maintain and execute an overall project planning schedule. The initial AFTT • SEIS/OEIS Stick Chart containing major milestones is provided in enclosure (1). Maintain and execute an interagency permitting schedule for MMPA and ESA • authorizations. The AFTT Interagency Permitting Milestone Schedule is provided in enclosure (2). Track permitting schedule milestones via an online At-Sea Permitting Dashboard that will be updated by Navy on a weekly basis and accessible by Navy and NMFS staff. . Provide monthly Interagency Permitting Milestone Schedule Status Reports beginning at publication of the Notice of Intent and ending when the MMPA and ESA authorizations are finalized. The monthly status reports will be forwarded by the Navy project lead to NMFS as well as Navy senior leadership. Provide proposed schedule changes, as necessary, to the Interagency Permitting . Milestone Schedule with the monthly status reports. Navy respectfully requests that NMFS, in its role as a cooperating agency, provide support as follows: • Provide timely comments on working drafts of the SEIS/OEIS. The Navy requests that comments on draft SEIS/OEIS documents be provided in accordance with approved project schedules. 2

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- Provide timely regulatory deliverables, such as draft and final Proposed Rules, in accordance with approved project schedules.
- Adhere to the overall schedule as set forth by the Navy and provide advance notification to the Navy when there is a likelihood of missing schedule milestones.
- Respond to Navy requests for information, in particular related to review of the acoustic effects analysis and evaluation of the effectiveness of protective and mitigation measures.
- Coordinate, to the maximum extent practicable, any public comment periods required in the MMPA permitting process with the Navy's NEPA public comment periods.
- Participate, as necessary, in Tiger Team meetings hosted by the Navy for discussion of issues related to the SEIS/OEIS.
- Participate in project scoping and public meetings and attend any scheduled risk communication training in advance of those meetings.
- Provide a formal, written response to this cooperating agency request.

Navy and NMFS have been working to develop the enclosed schedules integrating the requirements of NEPA, MMPA and ESA in support of environmental planning for the AFTT Study Area.

- The schedules establish target milestones to facilitate coordination across the agencies' areas of responsibility. Each agency commits to support the target milestones within their area of responsibility, to notify other affected parties if a milestone within that signatory's area of responsibility is at risk, and to identify inhouse schedule adjustments to achieve Record of Decision dates.
- This commitment to support integrated scheduling in no way supersedes regulatory processes nor assumes the outcome of requisite regulatory analyses, agency determinations, public involvement processes or independent agency decision authorities.
- Navy and NMFS agree to coordinate any changes to the schedules with their senior leadership. Proposed changes that require a waiver of the two-year CEQ timeline for completion of an Environmental Impact Statement will be forwarded to Navy and NMFS senior agency officials for approval.

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The Navy views this agreement as critical to the successful completion of the environmental planning process for the AFTT SEIS/OEIS. NMFS assistance will be invaluable in this endeavor.

We appreciate your consideration of our request and look forward to your response. The Navy point of contact for this action is Ms. Kimberly Kler, who can be reached at (360) 865-5015 or kimberly.h.kler.civ@us.navy.mil.

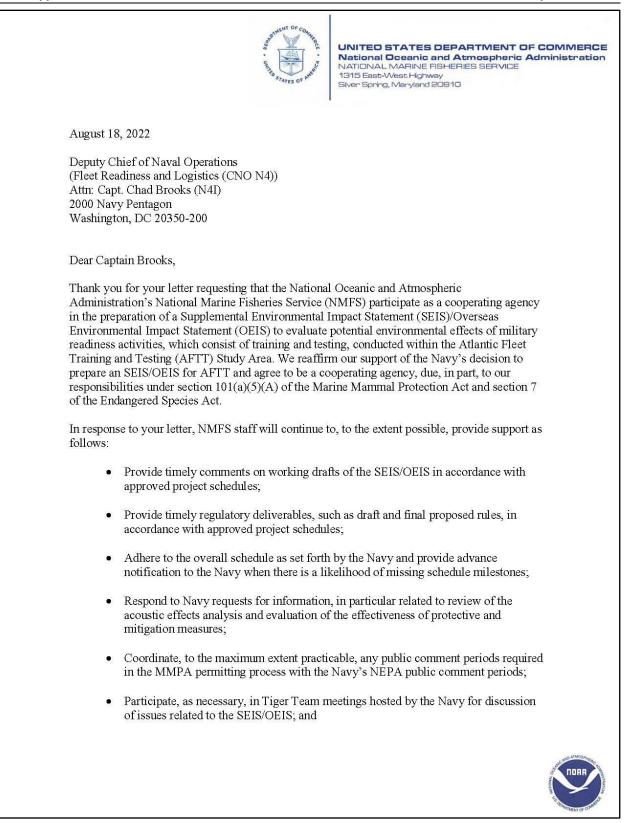
Sincerely,

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E. M. KERN Director, Installations (N4I)

Enclosures: 1. AFTT SEIS/OEIS Overall Project Schedule 2. AFTT SEIS/OEIS Interagency Permitting Milestone Schedule

Copy to: ASN (EI&E) DASN (EM&R) OAGC (EI&E) COMUSFLTFORCOM (N46) COMPACFLT (N465) CNIC (N45) COMNAVSEASYSCOM COMNAVAIRSYSCOM CNR COMNAVREG SE (N45) COMNAVREG MIDLANT (N45)



• Assess the need for participation in project scoping and public meetings and attend when agreed upon given staff workload and available funding.

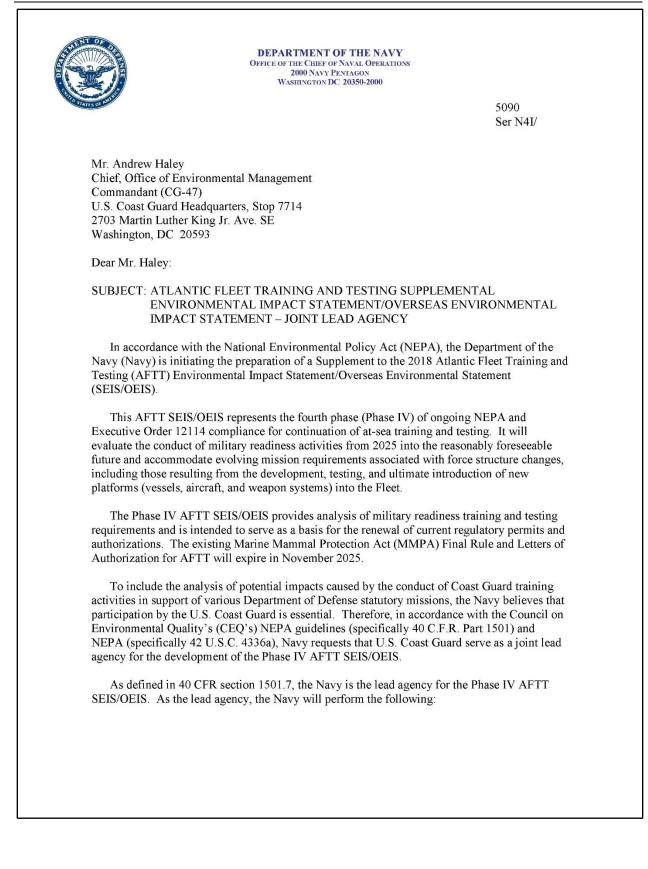
Further, as noted in your letter, the Navy and NMFS have been working to develop the schedules included in Enclosures 1 and 2 to the Navy's letter, integrating the requirements of NEPA, MMPA and ESA in support of environmental planning for the AFTT Study Area. NMFS commits to support the target milestones within its area of responsibility, to notify other affected parties if a milestone within our area of responsibility is at risk, and to identify in- house schedule adjustments to achieve Record of Decision dates. This commitment to support integrated scheduling in no way supersedes regulatory processes nor assumes the outcome of requisite regulatory analyses, agency determinations, public involvement processes or independent agency decision authorities. Additionally, the Navy and NMFS agree to coordinate any changes to the schedules with their senior leadership. Proposed changes that require a waiver of the two-year CEQ timeline for completion of an Environmental Impact Statement will be forwarded to Navy and NMFS senior agency officials for approval.

If you need any additional information, please contact Jolie Harrison, NMFS Office of Protected Resources, at (301) 427-8401.

Sincerely,

Junkerly B&

Kimberly Damon-Randall Director, Office of Protected Resources



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a. Gather all necessary background information and prepare all necessary permit applications associated with the proposed action.

b. Work with National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) personnel to determine the method of estimating potential effects to protected marine species, including threatened and endangered species.

c. Determine the scope of the AFTT SEIS/OEIS, including the alternatives evaluated.

d. Circulate the NEPA document to the public, including any other interested parties.

e. Schedule and supervise meetings held in support of the NEPA process and compile any comments received from the public.

f. Maintain an administrative record and respond to any Freedom of Information Act requests relating to the AFTT SEIS/OEIS.

g. Maintain and execute an overall project planning schedule. Schedule changes will be coordinated between Navy project lead and U.S. Coast Guard project lead. The initial AFTT SEIS/OEIS Stick Chart containing major milestones is provided in enclosure (1).

h. Track interagency permitting schedule milestones via an online At-Sea Permitting Dashboard that will be updated by Navy on a weekly basis and will be accessible by Navy and U.S. Coast Guard staff.

i. Provide monthly Interagency Permitting Milestone Schedule Status Reports beginning at publication of the Notice of Intent and ending when the MMPA and ESA authorizations are finalized. The monthly status reports will be forwarded by the Navy project lead to U.S. Coast Guard as well as Navy senior leadership.

j. Provide proposed schedule changes for team discussion, as necessary, to the Interagency Permitting Milestone Schedule with the monthly status reports.

Navy respectfully requests that U.S. Coast Guard, in its role as a joint lead agency, provide support as follows:

a. Provide timely comments on working drafts of the SEIS/OEIS. The Navy requests that comments on draft SEIS/OEIS documents be provided in accordance with approved project schedules (see Enclosure 2).

b. Adhere to the overall schedule as set forth by the Navy and provide advance notification to the Navy if there is a likelihood of missing schedule milestones.

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c. Respond to Navy requests for information, in particular related to proposed training activities that will be conducted in the AFTT Study Area.

d. Participate, as necessary, in Tiger Team meetings hosted by the Navy for discussion of issues related to the SEIS/OEIS.

e. Participate in project public meetings and attend any scheduled risk communication training in advance of those meetings.

f. Provide a formal, written response to this joint lead agency request.

The Navy views this agreement as critical to the successful completion of the environmental planning process for the AFTT SEIS/OEIS. U.S. Coast Guard assistance will be invaluable in this endeavor.

We appreciate your consideration of our request and look forward to your response. The Navy point of contact for this action is Ms. Kimberly Kler, (360) 649-1160, email: kimberly.h.kler.civ@us.navy.mil.

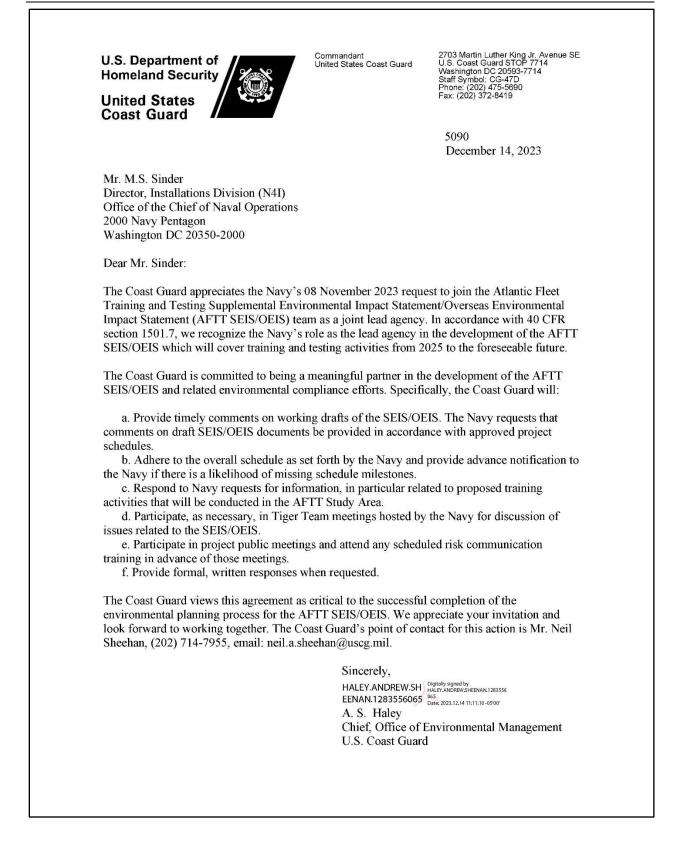
Sincerely,

SINDER.MARK Sincer Mark S. 1277897365 .S.1277897365 .0500

M. S. SINDER Director, Installations Division

Enclosures: 1. AFTT SEIS/OEIS Overall Project Schedule (Stick Chart) 2. AFTT Master Project Schedule

Copy to: ASN (EI&E) DASN (EM&R) OAGC (EI&E) MCICOM GF EV COMUSFLTFORCOM NORFOLK VA (N46) COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI (N465) CNIC WASHINGTON DC (N45) COMNAVSEASYSCOM WASHINGTON DC COMNAVAIRSYSCOM PATUXENT RIVER MD CNR ARLINGTON VA COMNAVREG SE JACKSONVILLE FL (N45) COMNAVREG MIDLANT NORFOLK VA (N45)





5090 Ser N46/019 May 21, 2024

Commander, Naval Sca Systems Command Attn: Code SEA 0919 1333 Isaac Hull Avenue, SE Washington Navy Yard, DC 20376-0001

We appreciate your continued support in helping the U.S. Navy to meet its environmental responsibilities.

Sincerely, AGUAYO.MARIA.L rogicay sendey ORETO.115727678 JANNI 1 Date 8034022 102750 0400

M. L. AGUAYO Director, Fleet Installations and Environment and Deputy Chief of Staff

Enclosure: Request for Regulations and Letters of Authorization for the Incidental Taking of Marine Mammals Resulting from the U.S. Navy Training and Testing Activities in the AFTT Study Area.

Copy to: Ms. Tanya Dobrzynski, NMFS Office of Protected Resources Ms. Jolie Harrison, NMFS Office of Protected Resources CNO WASHINGTON DC (OPNAV N4I) COMNAVSEASYSCOM WASHINGTON DC COMNAVAIRSYSCOM PATUXENT RIVER ONR ARLINGTON VA