



ATLANTIC FLEET TRAINING AND TESTING

SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/
OVERSEAS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
for Activities in 2025 and Beyond



NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT PROCESS AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard are using the best available science and methods of analysis to assess the potential environmental impacts associated with conducting training and testing activities within the Atlantic Fleet Training and Testing (AFTT) Study Area, including activities that involve the use of active sonar and explosives. Most of these training and testing activities have been previously analyzed and authorized under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and Endangered Species Act, and are similar to the types of activities that have been occurring in the Study Area for decades. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is participating in the NEPA process as a cooperating agency in preparation of the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS/OEIS).

THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

NEPA requires U.S. federal agencies to identify and consider the potential environmental impacts on the human, natural, or cultural environment before making a decision on a proposal. In compliance with NEPA, the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard have prepared a Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS that analyzes potential environmental impacts associated with conducting training and testing activities in the AFTT Study Area.

This Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS meets the requirements of NEPA and Executive Order 12114, *Environmental Effects Abroad of Major Federal Actions*.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Community involvement is an important part of the NEPA process, and a number of opportunities are available for the public to participate throughout the development of the Supplemental EIS/OEIS.



Public and agency input allows decision makers to benefit from local knowledge and consider local issues and concerns. The public participates in the NEPA process during the following stages by:

- **Scoping Period:** Helping to identify environmental issues and potential alternatives
- **Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS Public Review and Comment Period:** Evaluating and commenting on the environmental analysis of the Proposed Action and alternatives

Government agencies, elected officials, organizations, and individuals are encouraged to participate and comment on the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS in any of the following ways:

- Submit comments via the project website at:
www.nepa.navy.mil/aftteis
- Mail comments to:
Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Atlantic
Attention: AFTT SEIS/OEIS Program Manager
Code: EV22SG
6506 Hampton Blvd.
Norfolk, VA 23508-1278

Comments must be postmarked or received online by **November 21, 2024**, for consideration in the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS.



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more information

The Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard are committed to facilitating public and agency input in order to achieve a high-quality environmental analysis document.

Public involvement is a fundamental part of the development of the AFTT Supplemental EIS/OEIS. The Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard welcome and appreciate your comments.



NEPA PROCESS AND TIMELINE

MILESTONE	DESCRIPTION	CURRENT SCHEDULE
Notice of Intent to Prepare a Supplemental EIS/OEIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiates the public involvement phase of the NEPA process 	Nov. 17, 2023
▶ Scoping Period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides an early and open public process for identifying, defining, and prioritizing issues to be evaluated in the Supplemental EIS/OEIS Opportunity for public input 	COMMENT PERIOD: Nov. 17, 2023 – Dec. 16, 2023
Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presents the analysis of potential environmental impacts for each identified alternative 	September 2024
▶ Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS Public Review and Comment Period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides 60 days for the public to comment on the analysis presented in the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS Includes public meetings and opportunities for public review and comment 	COMMENT PERIOD: Sept. 20, 2024 – Nov. 21, 2024
Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes updates to the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS and responses to public comments received during the Draft Supplemental EIS/OEIS comment period 	January 2025 – August 2025
30-Day Wait Period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides 30 days after the Final Supplemental EIS/OEIS is published before the Navy may make a final decision 	August 2025 – September 2025
Record of Decision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following the 30-day wait period, the Department of the Navy will issue a Record of Decision 	September 2025

▶ Opportunities for Public Review and Comment Completed In Progress Next Steps



For more information about the AFTT SEIS/OEIS and how to submit comments, visit www.nepa.navy.mil/aftteis