

MARIANA ISLANDS TRAINING AND TESTING SUPPLEMENTAL EIS/OEIS



PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

The Navy prepared the MITT Supplemental EIS/OEIS to support the re-evaluation and reauthorization of training and testing activities analyzed in the 2015 MITT Final EIS/OEIS.

PURPOSE OF THE PROPOSED ACTION

To conduct training and testing activities to ensure the Navy and other military services meet their respective missions.

PROPOSED ACTION

- Conduct training and testing activities at sea and on Farallon de Medinilla (FDM), which may include the use of active sonar and explosives, to support military readiness requirements beyond 2020.
- Accommodate evolving requirements, including those from the development, testing, and introduction of new vessels, aircraft, and weapons systems.

<p>Alternative 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Includes adjustments to types and levels of training and testing to meet current and future requirements. ■ Consists of activities and requirements associated with development, testing, and introduction of new vessels, aircraft, and weapons systems. ■ Reduces amount of active sonar estimated to be necessary to meet requirements.
<p>Alternative 2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Includes all activities under Alternative 1. ■ Includes additional adjustments to types and levels of activities, should unanticipated emergent world events require increased readiness levels.
<p>No Action Alternative</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Authorization from National Marine Fisheries Service would not be issued. ■ Proposed training and testing activities would not be conducted. ■ Strike warfare (dropping of ordnance) on FDM would not be conducted. ■ Other military activities not associated with Proposed Action would continue. ■ Purpose and need would not be met.

KEY UPDATES MADE IN THE DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL EIS/OEIS

- Refines analysis of anti-submarine warfare activities, resulting in reduced levels of active sonar and fewer hours of underwater sound.
- Includes analyses of training with new vessels, aircraft, weapons systems, and unmanned/autonomous systems, and decreases in other activities.
- Includes analyses of testing new systems and technologies, such as radar, communication systems (or simulators), or high-energy lasers.
- Includes updated underwater sound effects model, criteria and thresholds, and marine mammal and sea turtle data.
- Reviews procedural mitigation measures and considers geographic mitigation measures.

