

Public Comments Received on the HSTT Draft EIS/OEIS, via the HSTTEIS.com Website

Last Name	First Name	Comment
Abrahams	Leslie	Dear Dept. Of the Navy, I am writing to ask you to please not use high frequency sonar in our oceans. The damage it does to marine animals is horribly inhumane. While I do understand the need to test, continuing with the high frequency soar testing makes our nation to bad to the rest of the world. We need to find a more humane way to do testing. Thank you, Leslie Abrahams
Actipis	Elinor	I'm extremely concerned about the impact this might have on sea creatures. I think we can protect national security AND endangered marine animals. Please consider the steps recommended by the Humane Society of the US and other groups: * avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors * avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; * using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed.
Adams	Lisa	Please protect all of the marine mammals from explosives and sonar along the East Coast» and California/Hawaii».
Agnello	Jeanne	I am completely against this useless display of disregard to wildlife. I think you can see how many people are against it, so please go back to square one and think of another way to do this without harming innocent creatures. Please,please, please don't do this - these creatures can't speak for themselves!
Ahern	Alice	Please reconsider your plans for training exercises that will harm, maim or kill dolphins, whales and other marine life off the coasts of California and Hawaii.
Allen	Nathan	I just want to comment, without bias, but a clear and present sense of urgency, that the sounding tests that will be carried out to better map the seafloor and subterranean channels, will most likely and at a high degree of probability, be in the same locations, where many of the high order mammals will be hunting and eating, spawning, etcetera. My hope is that the US Naval operations, especially the pacific and southern California fleet will form a partnership with independent, unbiased sources, regarding the survival, of an already heavily impacted irradiated undersea environment, logic should prevail, the link to the story below cites the effects of new high pulse sounding gear and the dolphin deaths speak for themselves. Timing is everything, let us not ignore the extreme stress that the entire ocean food chain is under right now, the events at fukushima have yet to be measured in such a wide scale, but I think further stressing an already battered food chain, is going to be the nail in the coffin, so to speak, for the majority of sensitive mammals. If not killing them, it will destroy their sense of direction, I urge the highest caution in this matter, if we start to see dolphins washing ashore in California right after the sounding tests, we will know who to point the finger at, just like in Peru. I only hope for the highest transparency and for the Navy to bring in the consultation of unbiased marine protection agencies to assess ways in which the Navy can have the least environmental impact. Thank you, sincerely Nathan Allen http://inhabitat.com/615-dead-dolphins-discovered-on-peruvian-coast-oil-exploration-thought-to-be-responsible/615-dead-dolphins-found-along-peruvian-coast-ocra-peru-2/
Almy	Jessica	Dear Sir or Madam: I write out of concern about the effects of SONAR on marine mammals. Please avoid causing death or interfering with these animals' biologically important behaviors by changing the timing and/or location of these activities. By avoiding areas of high use and high importance to these animals, and by employing technologies such as acoustic monitoring to detect marine mammals' presence, the Navy could proceed with its operations without causing undue harm to these species. Sincerely yours, Jessica Almy
Alward	Wendy	It saddens me beyond belief to think of how horrific a death the sea mammals must endure under the sonar and explosive noise. Please minimize the collateral damage to these vulnerable creatures. No sea creatures, no seas, and without seas, we will no longer survive. This is the first generation of people who can legitimately worry if their children's children will have a future on this planet.
Ames	Leslie	I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill

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		<p>and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I hope to hear this testing is stopped since the damage to our oceans would be horrific.</p>
Amornkul	P	<p>Dear US Navy, As a former Hawaii resident, I have seen what happens with well-intentioned military testing off pristine coastal shores in Kauai and Kahoolawe. I grew up in Maryland, and I now live in California. As a Buddhist physician who has worked and lived all over the world doing International HIV prevention in Africa and polio eradication in Nepal/India, I plead that this proposal be reconsidered. All beings on this earth are inter-related, and if we damage/harm another, we hurt ourselves. Humans, with our highly evolved brains, have the responsibility of foresite and thinking through the global consequences (not just financial or political) and repercussions of our actions and decisions. Please reconsider the initiative. Please consider additional steps to reduce the harmful impact to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. Please re-think the plans and incorporate additional protective measures to preserve the marine biodiversity - particularly in Hawaii where 80% of the US's endemic biodiversity is found. Thank you for your consideration. P.N. Amornkul, MD, MPH</p>
Anderson-Pomeroy	Lesley	<p>I live in the San Juan islands off the coast of Washington state. The lives of Orcas, Minkes, Gray and Humpback whales are intertwined with the lives of the islanders economically, educationally, and spiritually. As a proud daughter of a retired Navy Chief, I understand and respect the Navy's need to conduct various exercises to protect our country. But I also have the utmost confidence in the Navy's ability to develop technologies that protect the marine life that our citizens depend on. Those that serve show everyday their excellent capabilities to take the long view, to do what's right especially if it is difficult. The exercises currently conducted by the Navy cause horrible pain and suffering in intelligent species. The death of L112, the female Orca, was definitely caused by those exercises. I know the Navy does not want to harm these creatures intentionally. Please show those whom you serve and protect that you intend to work toward a humane solution. Thank you.</p>
Anthony	Ryan	<p>I would like to comment on the testing that will completely change the course of mother nature and this earth. We are inseparably tied to every animal in the ocean. We need them thriving and healthy with how much we already do to hurt them. As the Navy please do the admiral thing and stop any testing that will hurt</p>

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		our fellow mammals. It is not worth it in The end. Who knows if the funding for your testing will even be worth the consequence in the future. Do not mess with life!
Anthony	Ryan	Read below
Archibald	Evangeline	Stop the killing of 1,800 whales and dolphins and the deafening of 15,900 more by ceasing the operation of the Navy's underwater sound system in the Hawaiian Islands, the California and Atlantic Coasts, and the Gulf of Mexico.
Argentierti	Lynne	To Whom it may concern, There is much we don't know about whales but we do know they are highly intelligent, social, highly evolved mammals. We know their brains have as much or more surface area than ours which suggests their intelligence may parallel ours though it may be a very different kind of intelligence. Many marine mammal species are endangered because of human impacts upon their environment or hunting. Some whale populations which were in the past endangered are just beginning to return because of education and protection. We have no right to knowingly permanently injure these living creatures who never purposefully injure humans unless first provoked. The Navy has admitted that the sonar tests will cause harm to whales and dolphins ranging from discomfort to disorientation to permanent deafness which would interfere with navigation, self defense and finding food thereby seriously impairing their ability to survive. Increased beaching and deaths of marine mammals have certainly been linked to previous Navy sound testing. Unless it is a time of war with imminent threat these tests should not be performed in areas known to be frequently passaged by whales and dolphins or within effective range of whales and dolphins. Please limit Navy sound testing to areas outside the known paths of migration, reproduction and feeding of whales and dolphins and other effected marine mammals. Please also require scanning for the presence of marine mammals within the disturbance zone prior to testing and delay testing until the marine mammals depart from the affected area. Unless the rights of these marine mammals are respected, I cannot condone Navy sound testing. Please consider the voice of the public..we wish to support all that you do. We appreciate your dedication to our safety. Most sincerely, Lynne Argentieri
Arias	Hector	Please consider that there is no rewind button on your testing equipment -- once the damage is done, there is no going back. If you seriously want to develop these weapons in order to protect the people of this country and its allies, then you might want to think about what it means for our children and their children to live in a world damaged beyond repair by people with all the right intentions but none of the real courage to protect all of its creatures. Please do the right thing -- even though it won't make billions of dollars for some companies who invest their money but none of their own lives...
Arita	Alisha	The U.S. Navy is completely inconsiderate and asinine. They should know that we have already had several important sea animals die from the oil spill and more etc. Now they wanna do super explosions with what little life is even <i>[Expletive deleted]</i> left in the ocean? I hate our army. I hate the people who don't give a damn about any other living creatures we SHARE this planet with. If I was in charge, i'd make my own prison to put idiots like that, away for life. This is another reason why i hate the american army. Got damn rednecks controlling everything, little rich kids don't know <i>[Expletive deleted]</i> .
Arkin	Cheryl	Please consider protecting. ALL living creatures, not just the human race. Please do not conduct these tests as the cost to sealife is too high. We are all God's creatures.
Armao	Terri	if navy sonar is harming dolphins whales and other marine mammals then someone is not doing their job. it is not good enough to develop sonar that detects enemies if you are then killing life in the oceans. this is a nightmare and sonar should not be tested and used if that is the end result. theses animals live in the seas it's not like they can go somewhere else. the navy and sonar developers must take responsibility for this. there will be nothing left to protect and keep safe if we extinguish life in the name of security. i for one would rather be less safe and keep the dolphins and whales around and healthy.
Arms	Victoria	How can we call ourselves a civilized nation when we are killing animals- not for the needs of our people? This is completely irresponsible behavior of the government. Keeping the planet ALIVE should be the main goal.
Atack	Jennifer	How can you sleep at night knowing you're contributing to the death of our oceans?

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		You do realize that no matter where on the planet you live, when the ocean dies, we all die.
Atack	Jennifer	In the year 2012 how can you think this is ok? How can you put at risk so many creatures of the ocean? Not only cetaceans will be affected by this, but you are going to disrupt the entire balance of the ocean! Our planet cannot exist on any level without our ocean. I beg you to stop this!
Atkins	Claire	It is known that in the past, whales have stranded and died in the wake of major military sonar exercises, with bleeding from the ears and other tissue damage attributed to sonar. I ask the Navy to consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. Please re-think plans and incorporate additional protective measures.
Attwell	Emily	If you must do this kind of testing, please implement additional protective measures to minimize harm to our precious sea creatures. No amount of national defense is worth the harm, suffering, and destruction it causes to these creatures. Our own future depends on the health of our oceans. Protect our ocean life, and you protect us. This too must be part of the mission of the U.S. Navy.
Atwood	Shelly	Navy: " Sonar, Blasts Way Harmful Than We Thought" "1.6K WHALES, DOLPHINS COULD FACE INJURY, HEARING LOSS IN YEAR (NEWSER) – The Navy's use of sonar and explosives could deal damage to some 1,600 marine mammals near California and Hawaii every year—a figure far higher than once believed. The whales and dolphins are at risk of hearing loss and other injuries, the AP reports. What's more, the explosives could accidentally kill up to 200 animals. An earlier study assessing the risk between 2009 and 2013 predicted that just 100 creatures could be hurt or killed. The new research is part of an environmental impact statement that considers the Navy's plans between 2014 and 2019." You know it's not only harmful, but deadly. This quote was from the US Navy, posted 5/11/12. So, why would you continue to do this? Are you here to protect lives or destroy them? I am a constituent, and a tax paying US citizen, and I do NOT want my hard earned tax \$ going to the destruction of such precious species. Thank you for your consideration to protect, rather than harm and destroy. Sincerely, Shelly Atwood, MD
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Augustine	Stephen	As a citizen of the United States I strongly, strongly object to the Navy's plan to conduct high-intensity sonar testing anywhere near marine mammals. I do not want you to protect me at the expense of killing wildlife that we are all responsible for and which I cherish. Such testing has been documented in the past to cause significant loss of marine life and cause thousands others to become deaf. The environmental impacts of your actions are simply too great. Please stop and desist.
Aum	Niraj	I hereby state my objection to any sonar testing that would damage whales, dolphins or any other sea creature sensitive to such testing. Please DO NOT DO THIS!!! Is there another way to test without harming the environment and the sea life? Is there another location? Please listen to the collective voice of the conscience, of the public, our future and common sense of not destroying species that could become endangered. Thank you
Austin	Karina	It is my understanding that the sound tests the Navy is considering can be very harmful to marine animals. The Navy is full of so many smart and innovative people my hope is that there is another way to conduct research and development. I know sacrifices must sometimes be made for security, but I fear this action is premature since there should be other alternatives available. Thank you for considering my comment. Karina Austin
Avery	Carolyn	Please stop killing off whales. This world is rough enough and we need them, the oceans need them. Find a better way!
Avila	Megan	As a resident of Hawaii, I can think of no greater responsibility than to be stewards of our great life giving ocean. I must plead with the Government and Naval forces: PLEASE! For the sake of ALL sea creatures, reconsider and change the plans you have for testing in our oceans; in Hawaiian and Californian Pacific waters and Atlantic waters as well.

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Avila	Paula	We are saddened to hear that the Navy is considering conducting exercises involving the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. Do you feel that it is really necessary to conduct this testing that will affect such a volume of marine life? It would be a great pity to see so much of the conservation work the USA has undertaken towards its marine environment over the last number of years being undermined by these proposed exercises. These conservation initiatives deserve to be applauded and have made the USA one of the leaders in marine conservation. To conduct these exercises flies in the face of all the good work and progress that has been achieved to date. There is also the issue of sound channels in the oceans that can carry sounds over vast distances, so not only local populations may be affected but also populations in areas seemingly far removed from the testing activities. As these activities could potentially affect endangered species on both the high seas and possibly in the territorial waters of other nations we believe that any other nations that could potentially be affected should be fully consulted, and the findings of any such consultations made public, prior to any decision being made on whether these activities should progress to the next stage. We would ask you to give serious consideration to just how necessary these proposed exercises are and where the benefits of them lie versus the destruction of marine life that so many dedicated citizens have worked tirelessly to preserve and enhance for both current and future generations. We look forward to hearing from you with your views on the above, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us, yours, Paula
Ayers-bell	Donya	This is in regard to the Navy plans to do practice in the oceans near California and Hawaii using live explosives and high intensity sonar, that will cause extensive and potentially harmful and possibly deadly effects on marine life in those areas. I understand the need for practice, but there must be some way to eliminate or reduce the amount of damage to the unsuspecting wildlife, to make dry runs or some other option. Please reconsider the damage to the already compromised creatures of the oceans. Thank you!
Baker	Mel	This project, that will adversely affect the hearing of whales and dolphins, is unconscionable. Please think of another way to accomplish what you want to do to map the seas. There is no need to sacrifice precious marine life. Your present plans are not acceptable. Please reconsider the consequences of your actions now before it's too late. Thank you!
Baldwin	Lauren	We are the most powerful nation in the world. We should be able to run tests in a manner that does NOT harm marine life...you need to find another way to do this. It's not ok...and our military has more compassion than that!!!
Ballou	Jeff	Please balance all needs when making your decisions. Marine Life can not comment.
Bambrough	Stephanie	Please don't proceed with the testing that will injure whales and dolphins! They don't have voices to speak out against this kind of testing....so i pray that my voice might help make a difference for their survival. Marine mammals are amazing and endangered too much already. Please consider the welfare of all animals and choose another way that won't cause marine mammals their lives. Sincerely, stephanie bambrough
Baratta	Eric	Dear Navy Staff, I recently became aware of your plans for sonar exercises on both the east and west coasts that will have significant negative health impacts on marine mammals. I implore you to reconsider these plans and avoid the most harmful activities in marine areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. I am well aware that Navy leadership has taken forward-thinking steps to reduce military impact on the atmosphere and increase energy security and I hope you will consider aggressive protection steps in minimizing harm to marine mammal populations, some of which are endangered. Thank you very much for your consideration.
Barker	Katie	Dear sirs, Thank you for providing this method to comment on the underwater sonar program. I support the United States military and the United States Navy as the daughter of a former Air Force enlistee, a friend to several enlisted men and

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		<p>officers in various branches of the service, and a resident of a Coast Guard town. I have volunteered for various causes that support our military and their families. I support having a ready military that is well trained. All this said, I oppose the sonar program as there are still scientists and environmentalists who argue that sonar can disrupt whale feeding patterns, and in extreme cases can kill whales by causing them to beach themselves. I understands that scientists don't fully understand how sonar affects whales, but implore you to consider delaying this program while more scientific study is conducted. While you will encounter many individuals and comments that are inflammatory, reason and unbiased scientific study are the only true methods to discerning the correct path. Respectfully yours, Katie Barker</p>
Barlow	Dawn	<p>Whales are some of the oldest, most intelligent creatures alive on earth. Only about a century ago, they were hunted nearly to extinction, and many populations are just now making a comeback while other populations struggle to do so. However, just as these whale populations are beginning to recover from the previous harm caused by humans, the Navy threatens to harm or kill thousands more through their sound testing. Whales us sound for navigation, communication, feeding, and for the selection of a mate. The frequency and intensity of the sound deployed by the Navy deafens the whales. Without the use of sound, whales are unable to survive, and a deaf whale is a dead whale. Whales are highly intelligent, social, highly evolved mammals. We know their brains have as much or more surface area than ours which suggests their intelligence may parallel ours though it may be a very different kind of intelligence. I have personally seen the pain and suffering that whales are capable of experiencing through encounters I have had with humpback whales entangled in nets. The Navy is fully aware of the harm and damage that they will be causing. They have calculated the estimated number of deaths, and I know the amount of suffering that the whales will endure. Unless it is a time of war with imminent threat these tests should not be performed in areas known to be frequently passaged by whales and dolphins or within effective range of whales and dolphins. Please limit Navy sound testing to areas outside the known paths of migration, reproduction and feeding of whales and dolphins and other effected marine mammals. Please also require scanning for the presence of marine mammals within the disturbance zone prior to testing and delay testing until the marine mammals depart from the affected area. Unless the rights of these marine mammals are respected, I cannot condone Navy sound testing. Sincerely, Dawn Barlow</p>
Barlow	Sean	<p>To the Navy officials: I am writing to express my strong opposition to the Navy's acoustic/sonor testing in Hawaii and California along the migration routes of dolphins and whales. I understand that these tests are killing or gravely injuring these whales and dolphins. I recognize that testing is necessary for our national security and I'm glad you are doing that. But surely you can find places to do the testing in areas that do not damage these creatures. I would appreciate a response. regards, Sean Barlow, Brooklyn, New York</p>
Barnard	Sue	<p>Dear Navy Officials: I definitely think we should protect our country and I thank you very much for that. Every American is proud of our Navy and we all appreciate the fact that you keep us safe. I also know you are smart enough to find a way to protect our country without killing and/or endangering our whales and other marine life off the coast of California. Marine life is one of this country's greatest natural resources. Please be considerate and protect these animals while you're protecting Americans. Sincerely, Sue Ellen Barnard, DVM Franklin, Tennessee</p>
Barnum	Jeff	<p>There is much we don't know about whales but we do know they are highly intelligent, social, highly evolved mammals. We know their brains have as much or more surface area than ours which suggests their intelligence may parallel ours though it may be a very different kind of intelligence. Many marine mammal species are endangered because of human impacts upon their environment or hunting. Some whale populations which were in the past endangered are just beginning to return because of education and protection. We have no right to knowingly permanently injure these living creatures who never purposefully injure humans unless first provoked. The Navy has admitted that the sonar tests will cause harm to whales and dolphins ranging from discomfort to disorientation to permanent deafness which would interfere with navigation, self defense and finding</p>

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Barry	Marina	You live in a beautiful place - why practice war there? The sea creatures have been there far longer than we have and deserve our respect. Please stop killing them!
Barton	Gary	I am deeply concerned over the sonar testing proposed off the east coast. The cost to marine mammals resulting from such testing is unthinkable, especially since there are other alternatives which would avoid this catastrophic massacre and permanent impairment to such a large number fellow inhabitants - all feeling, thinking creatures. This is unbearable. Don't let this happen, please!
Basmajian	Don	Dear Sir or Madam, Please do not allow sound testing that will harm the whales as they migrate! We must think of the consequences of our actions. Thank you! Don Basmajian
Bates	Sally	This is one of the most unnecessary and barbaric excercizes!! You have been doing this for years now... you KNOW what it does! You also know the results of your actions, obviously with you estimate of the Dolphin mass murder. PLEASE STOP THIS NOW!!! It is almost as ignorant as the people who round up dolphins so young men can "become Men" right of passage by slaughtering rounded up and captive dolphins!! What is it with you men that you feel the need to slaughter something in order to feel powerful? I find this sooo sad and heartbreaking for you all! Why are you perpetuating this to our younger generations? Let it stop w2ith You guys here and now!! Please this only adds more violence and damage to every living thing/person/soul on this planet!! We have done this for centuries! Maybe we should try something different for a change?! Help the Earth and all beings, things, souls to evolve beyond Murder, Mayhem and Fear! Especially when you already KNOW what it is going to do!!! PLEASE DO NOT DO THIS! Hawaii is a very Sacred place, PLEASE treat it with respect, Love and Consciousness!!
Baugh	Pam	Why do some humans think the human race is separate from nature and therefore superior to it? We will thrive and survive when we learn to live together without harm to any life. Please reconsider the plans to do the testing that surely will affect

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		the sea life. Thank you for attention.
Baxter	Kelley	I think it is sad that you will be testing in the waters off of California and Hawaii and potentially killing and causing hearing loss to so many marine animals. I am truly opposed and hope that this testing will be stopped.
Beard	Sky	Please stop the naval testing that will hurt marine life, specifically marine mammals such as whales and dolphins. The ocean noise is very harmful to the ecosystem, especially for marine mammals who use sonics to hunt, communicate, and mate. Thank you. Sincerely, Sky
Benjamin	Arthur	I am conservative American and support our Armed Forces and those that gallantly serve in each of our armed forces, especially the Navy. Protecting our nation and our troops is essential and vigilance is mandatory. However, I believe it is our responsibility to do all we can to avoid unnecessary and avoidable damage to wildlife and our surroundings in the natural order of life, we need to do everything we can to protect animals and our fellow humans while not sacrificing the above. In upcoming military naval exercises in our oceans, especially those involving sonar and explosives, we MUST take prudent steps to avoid damaging and/or killing marine mammals like whales and porpoises. Using technology at our fingertips we need to avoid populated marine areas in testing and do everything we can to protect these helpless animals who become unnecessary collateral damage. Sonar must be used with consideration for the best outcomes for the planet and for our future. Please take immediate steps to avoid the deafening of thousands of whales and other collateral damage that can be avoided. It is our charge and responsibility as Americans. Thank you.
Benke	Alicia	Please protect marine mammals from explosives and sonar along the East Coast and California/Hawaii. We know that in the past, whales have stranded and died in the wake of major military sonar exercises, with bleeding from the ears and other tissue damage attributed to sonar. These have included incidents of beaked whales dying in the Canary Islands following sonar exercises, the panicked flight of orcas and porpoises off Washington State in 2003, and dozens of whales (including pregnant females) from several species who died in North Carolina in 2005. These tragedies can be avoided to a very significant degree. Please consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. I am calling on the U.S. Navy to re-think its plans and to incorporate additional protective measures. Thank you.
Bennett	Tamara	Stop. Think. Killing marine life to test weapons? The Navy's job is to protect America, not kill its animals. Many if not most Americans love, enjoy and would want to protect our animals as well as our citizens. If we are murdering animals to test weapons we are ignorant useless dwellers on this planet. Destruction is not protecting. This world belongs to every animal and human on it. America belongs to every citizen in it. I would hate to read that the US Navy disgraced our country by murdering marine mammals just to test some weapon. We are better than that.
Benzel	Karen	I am very much against the use of explosives and high intensity sonar when it harms whales, dolphins and other sea creatures, killing many of them. I'm all for security but "training exercises" can certainly be done without creating a war on wildlife. I am also ashamed that my tax dollars are funding this sort of thing, which we know has done terrible harm and death to sea creatures over the years. The price is too high in my opinion.
Berberich	Samantha	I spoke with many people at the meeting and after doing so I just don't feel explosive testing is necessary. Computer simulation can be just as realistic and is unharmed. Don't brush it off and say it's not as realistic. Technology is fantastic and can absolutely make it as realistic as the real thing. Also that way the rest of the human population won't hate the Navy and be constantly fighting them.
Berg	Melissa	I understand the need for the Navy. However, we, as the human race have a responsibility to protect and keep our planet's marine mammals safe from harm, and we should most certainly not bring them death. I believe as human

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		<p>beings we are intelligent enough to conduct tests without harming these amazing animals. I also believe that those in charge of this project will be humane enough to find another way. Swim with these amazing creatures. They will share a feeling of peace with you that render you unable to even consider harming them or their environment.</p>
Berg	Susan	<p>Please DO NOT carry on with the proposed Naval Training and Testing EIS/OEIS that will inevitably kill and maim marine wildlife!!! It is incredibly baffling that all of our military training exercises have to include torturing and killing mammals on land and in the sea and I find it repugnant, unnecessary and evil. Our nation has become one that does not respect the sanctity of life -- whether animal or human -- and I am always thoroughly DUSGUSTED to hear about activities that promote this violence. STOP, STOP, STOP these sick and twisted projected procedures! Thank you.</p>
Betourne	Susan	<p>I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.</p>
Betourne	Susan	<p>I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and</p>

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		injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
Bettwy	Dana	Dear Sir/Madame representing the U.S. Navy: Please consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals in your testing methods. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. Please re-think the current plans for testing and incorporate additional protective measures. Surely the Navy can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures. Thank you, Dana Bettwy Irvine, California
Bhatt	Shephali	This is making me sick to my stomach. Dolphins and whales are such intelligent and gentle creatures known for saving human beings on multiple occasions. Please please please please please do not put them through this torture. There is no explanation that can make this okay. We (The United States of America) are better than this. Thank you for your time.
Bianco Johnston	Meyla	DO NOT HARM MARINE LIFE
Bickel	Jenni	I am emailing you as a very concerned citizen of the united States. I would like to please ask you to refrain from planned sonar and explosive testing that the Navy is planning to proceed with. This is such a huge danger to the oceans mammals and survival of multiple types of endangered species. We must protect our oceans and these animals, to sustain our earth for the future of our own children and our planets survival. Please reconsider executing your plans. Sincerely Jenni Bickel
Bielby	Donna	I am deeply concerned for our ocean sea life with the Navy's proposal with their testing which will deafen 1600 cetaceans and kill 200 marine mammals. If we continue to destroy our oceans in the name of protecting us who are we actually protecting ? THINK PEACE
Blackorby	Shannon	This is unthinkable and unforgivable. There must be a better way. PLEASE don't do this to our precious ocean friends.
Bleiweiss	Carrie	Please, please, for the mercy of the living creatures who reside in the ocean STOP THE UNDERWATER SONAR/SOUND TESTING. The US military is without question, the strongest, most advanced military on our great blue planet. It is now time for our great military to make its future technical advances in humane ways. As a future resident of Hawaii, I speak out for the whales and dolphins who cannot be heard but who CAN HEAR YOU. They are suffering greatly from the effects of underwater sonar. Dolphins and whales use sonar not only to navigate, but to communicate with each other. Our sonar testing, much louder than their own voices, drowns out their own calls, destroys their hearing, and can lead to loss of life. Please, please be conscious of how sonar testing affects them and cease this practice. We can use our technical prowess to create lab environments to test our equipment. Thank you sincerely for your consideration.
Bleiweiss	Carrie	Can you imagine the incredible headache sonar testing must cause to whales and dolphins? It is on the magnitude of TORTURE to these magnificent creatures. PLEASE STOP THE SONAR TESTING. Thank you.
Blystone	Catherine	Please do not test along the ocean waters and kill our marine lives. That is invasion on their home and they deserve to love a long healthy life without having to worry about what humans are going to do. We do enough to animals already without doing this test. You should test out in the DESERT!
Bohonik	Candace	I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Please support the responsible sharing of our oceans for protection of our wildlife and our planet. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Thank you, too, for the work you do to safeguard the USA as well as the shores of other countries, and the safe passage of vessels the world over. God bless your fine efforts.

Last Name	First Name	Comment
Bolinger	Michele	Please stop killing our marine life while performing this testing! The public is outraged at this, as am I. Thank you
Booker	Tierney	Find another way. The cost is too high. The oceans and its abundant life are essential to the health of the whole planet.
Boros	Barbara	I am writing to protest your sonar testing which will kill and injure countless marine animals. While I believe in taking steps to maintain our national security I know there must be alternative methods that don't harm the animals and sea life that live in the ocean. We must learn to share the planet with other living beings, not take everything for ourselves. Please consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed.
Bostock	Blythe	STOP Killing OUR WHALES AND DOLPHINS!!!!
Bourland	Patricia	Please do not harm whales and dolphins with sonar. They are beautiful intelligent creatures who deserve our respect and our protection.
Bowen	Ken	I question the value of ANY underwater explosives testing. I don't believe that the navy or the country is facing any submarine or surface vessel threats which would effectively be countered by in-water explosions. Certainly any need for such devices could be adequately served by existing WW 2 era technology and simulation training. I applaud, however, that the US Navy is submitting to this public scrutiny, which has been lacking in the case of high-impact echo-sounding by oil exploration firms. I would advocate an international assessment of ALL sonic pollution in the oceans.
Boydston	Natalie	In conducting your training exercises along the California coast and Hawaii I urge you to minimize the impact these activities have upon the marine life. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed.
Boyse	Carol	It is not acceptable to endanger marine mammals by conducting training exercises using explosives and sonar in their habitats.
Bradish	Jennifer	Please, please stop thinking of ways to kill and instead, start thinking of ways to protect our planet, the human race, and all the other creatures we are so fortunate to share this beautiful world with. We humans have a responsibility to protect and nurture all the other nonhuman persons, yes persons, like whales and dolphins (among others) who will be adversely affected by Naval testing stretching from Hawaii to California. The proposed testing is incredibly selfish and short sighted, actually unthinkable. How dare we?
Bradley	Jean	please consider the damage to the cetaceans, dolphins and whales, with the sound experiments. This would be terrible to kill or damage these animals. Very bad planning. It is time to heal the planet not to add to the destruction. Thank you, Jean Bradley
Bradshaw	Meridith	please don't allow this.
Braniff	Martha	We cannot further endanger the whale population for any reason. The level of intelligence of these giant mammals is unknown to us, but their future existence depends on the intelligence and compassion of human beings. Please do not create any situation that will harm their future. They need our help to survive. Thank you for listening, Martha E. Braniff
Brenkman	Lisa	My late stepfather, Paul Stevens, was a Naval Oceanographer, and he taught at the Naval Academy in Monterey, CA. He was extremely concerned about the impact of projects such as this, as he understood the balance of nature and the possible damage to creatures who would be affected by such research. I respectfully plead that you suspend all plans to implement these studies. It is my

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		belief that this would be cruel and torturous treatment. I thank you for your consideration, on behalf of myself and my late stepfather.
Brewster	Joseph	I think this is wrong and should not happen!
		I am very concerned that a branch of the military of my country is seriously considering this kind of destructive, large scale testing. That so many intelligent, sensitive marine mammals would suffer incalculable suffering and loss strikes me as prohibitive. How can we be a proud people while conducting such reprehensible behavior? I fully understand that testing of various technologies needs to be done. Yet I see no reason this kind of data collection has to be done with such breathtaking disregard for our fellow living, breathing, feeling fellow creatures. As a nation, we have evolved in many ways. When we go to war, we now actually go to some great lengths to avoid "colateral damage". Civilian deaths are no longer seen as an acceptable & necessary by products of war. So too should we graduate to clearer thinking when it comes to creatures we share this planet with. Dolphins & Whales are not "just fish", they are our kindred. Not so very different from us, they think, they plan, they feel, they love, they live in family groups that support and care for one another. Are we so base a creature that this does not move us to seek out their protection? How can we think of ourselves as beings of conscience, yet allow ourselves to participate in a program that will blindly rip into our fellow creatures. Are we so blood thirstily self-centered? We certainly can devise testing protocols that insure the continued safety and well being of these animals, while allowing us to collect the information we need. Would our currently proposed testing have to be scaled back? Perhaps. Would our current plans need to be modified & revised? Certainly. Would it cost more money than we had anticipated? You bet. Would it be simple & easy? Not likely. But COULD it be done? Of that, there is no doubt! I want to look at myself in the mirror every morning and be able to stand tall. I want my Son to be proud of the things I have stood for. I imagine you do too. But I won't achieve these things if I stand by and say nothing while plans are made which would inflict greivous harm on innocent animals for no good reason. And to my way of thinking, being inconvenienced, having to go back to the drawing board to create a more humane plan, and being forced to become creative and come up with a new budgetary structure are not good enough reasons to allow ourselves to sidestep doing what is right and what is justifiable. Our current plans treat our companion creatures as if they were "things" with no feeling-that warrant no thought on our part. "Things" we can just discount. Nothing could be further from the truth. And if we don't start acknowledging this, we stain ourselves with filth. The filth that comes with the manically egocentric attitude that we can do whatever we want without regard to how it affects the planet's other "citizens". Personally, I would much rather try to grow & become "more" in my lifetime. The broader view, the bigger picture, the more inclusive approach is what leads us to become better human beings. And whatever that may cost-it is what we are called to do. Thank you for your time. Please think deeply about this. Sincerely Yours, Denise Brickell Vaughan
Brickell Vaughan	Denise	
		The price is too high. Please do not make this lethal mistake. I understand the need to protect our country but feel that innocent lives should not be taken to achieve this end. Please make me proud to support the Navy, as I always have been. PUT A STOP TO THESE PLANS!
Bridges	Ella	
		I want to say that the Navy (and everyone) MUST consider how it's actions affect the biological systems of other living creatures. The fact is that when one system is affected, it affects ALL systems, including humans. You cannot harm these intelligent mammals. You should be protecting them. There is always a way to compromise so that BOTH sides get what they need. Please don't hurt these amazing animals.
Briglio	Lori	
		I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment
Brooks O	Bailey	
		The animals have a right to live without the interference and interaction of human beings. Us, as people of the human race, wouldn't want this sonar testing to
Brooks O	Bailey	

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		interfere with our lives.
Brown	Jennifer	<p>The U.S. Navy is proposing to conduct training exercises in the rich marine environment off the coast of California and Hawaii. I am calling on the U.S. Navy to re-think its plans and to incorporate additional protective measures for marine wildlife. These exercises would involve the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. According to its own Environmental Impact Statements, the Navy estimates that the planned exercises would kill up to 2,000 marine mammals, including a large number of animals from endangered species, such as right whales. Thousands of others would suffer permanent lung damage. An additional 16,000 would be permanently deafened and 5 million would be temporarily deafened by the exercises. I understand the need for protecting our country, but we can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures. We know that in the past, whales have stranded and died in the wake of major military sonar exercises, with bleeding from the ears and other tissue damage attributed to sonar. These have included incidents of beaked whales dying in the Canary Islands following sonar exercises, the panicked flight of orcas and porpoises off Washington State in 2003, and dozens of whales (including pregnant females) from several species who died in North Carolina in 2005. These tragedies can be avoided to a very significant degree. Please protect marine mammals from explosives and sonar in California and Hawaii by considering steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. Thank you.</p>
Brown	Kelly	Please don't destroy anymore marine wildlife using sonar testing. Too many animals have already perished.
Brown	Kristy	<p>I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.</p>
Brown	Robin	All animals deserve to live on this planet and be safe from destruction of another species. Please do the right thing and make the necessary changes to protect whales and other sea animals. Thank you,
Bruckner	Susan	I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern

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		<p>California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.</p>
Brudigam-Seim	Holly	<p>I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment</p>
Buckley	Jill	<p>Please consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts of sonar on marine mammals such as avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. Thank you.</p>
Bueler-Pina	Gail	<p>Please consider these protective measures to help the protect our precious marine life. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward,</p>

Last Name	First Name	Comment
		while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed.
Burns	Carrie	As a shareholder I believe that the negative impact that the training and testing in the ocean around Hawaii and California during the next five years on animals defeats the purpose of having an EIS. According to your document the exercises could cause 1,600 marine mammals to suffer from hearing loss or other injury from its use of sonar and explosives each year for the next five years. The report also projects that 200 marine mammals will die each year. This is such a devastating and harmful impact to the marine life and an alternate on land testing facility should be utilized. There were millions of frogs used for biology dissection at one time but because of technology we now have better alternatives. Consider the IMPACTS in your EIS. You may not see the direct impact and the animals can not complain to you directly but is their pain, suffering and possibly death worth it?
Butler	Jodie	With all the research DARPA does, I sincerely believe that the Navy needs to work on a better solution than using sonar that damages more of our mammal marine life. It has taken 40 years for the humpback whale to make a comeback from near extinction to ONLY reach the designation of "endangered" species. There is research on the damage to dolphins and whales hearing and the disorientation leading to death and serious injury of mammal marine life due to the SONAR used by the Navy - in the U.S. and the U.K. Stranding, beachings, confusion and fear cause whales to stop feeding and subsequently die. The UK military has research from 2007 that clearly indicates there are issues with sonar in causing death to whales and that in 2011 additional research conducted by a team of international scientists has confirmed the earlier research. We have some of the best scientists in the world working on these issues and still, this issue continues to plague us in finding a better solution. The NAVY should re-evaluate it's plans, establish a timeline and a plan for alternatives, expedite research on better tools than SONAR, and start to more fully balance the military need in the context of damage to the ocean environment. It is unconscionable that the U.S. Navy would expand the damage to the marine environment by simplistically justifying it's actions by creating fear in the public. It requires leadership to take a more thorough and thoughtful approach. I respectfully submit, having been a public servant, that there are always alternatives that can be examined, and in this case, should be considered to mitigate the loss of marine mammal life.
Butner	Cheryl	I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Cheryl Butner
Butz	Thomas	Dear Sir/Madam, I am writing in support of your careful consideration about proposed testing that may adversely impact migrating whales in the coastal waters.

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		I am a concerned citizen, and simply want to register my request that you weigh the various needs for research and defense related activities along with a keen sense of stewardship in managing the larger environment and ecosystem that your activities may impact. Thank you for your consideration, Tom Butz, PhD
Byers	Anne	Please take all reasonable measures to ensure your impact on marine wildlife is minimized by exploring less dense areas and employing some of the recommendations provided by those concerned about the threats to whales and dolphins.
Caffrey	Ann Marie	I am deeply concerned about the harm that most likely will be caused to marine mammals during the Navy's sonar training and testing. Please apply your environmental report findings, and avoid your sonar testing in areas where whales, porpoises and dolphins are especially vulnerable: in calving grounds, migratory corridors and seasonal-use feeding areas. Your military testing can go forth, and with a small amount of awareness and planning, thousands of marine mammals can continue to live in their natural habitat. Thank you for protecting part of our country's rich natural resources. We stand to learn much more about sonar from these amazing creatures when they are protected, and can share the coastline with us.
Cagley	Jonah	Dear Officials, I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to bring this to your attention. Sincerely, Jonah Cagley
Callan	Kate	Please reconsider your use of warfare on mother nature. There are permanent catastrophic consequences to your actions and while you may feel it is necessary, consider that you may be wrong. Your actions will murder and permanently disable innocent members of this planet and while it is clear that that is of little importance to you, it is to many other people. I hope your conscious gets a hold of your decisions and you make the right one.
Callis	Kristin	Please adjust your training exercises to protect marine mammals from explosives and sonar.
Calton	Jeremy	I do not consent to have my tax money used for this. When SERVICE members say they SERVE...what does that mean? It means they SERVE US. I am a veteran and I approve this message.
Camino	Anthony	The estimates of the number of marine mammals that could be deafened and/or killed is unacceptable. Despite it being a worst-case estimate, the numbers are far higher than in the past, and I question the longterm benefit. We continue to destroy habitat and animal life and justify it as necessary for national defense, but at some point, the cost is too high. What will be left for those we've protected? I believe we've reached that point and ask that this testing be scaled back to reduce

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		the negative impact on marine life as much as possible.
Carberry	Liese	I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
Carchesio	Anne	Please consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts of these exercises to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed.
Carchesio	Anne	Please consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts of these exercises to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed.
Carchesio	Anne	Your Information Date Submitted: 7/10/2012 11:35:09 AM First Name: Anne Last Name: Carchesio Category: Private Individual Organization: Address Line 1: 7557 Tyndale Crescent Address Line 2: City: Burnaby State: WA Zip Code: 98226 Phone: E-mail: carchesi@sfu.ca Please consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts of these exercises to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed.
Cardenas	Deborah	PLEASE. If it is possible to attain your goals without the negative impact on live creatures - Why wouldn't you do it? We all have to share this earth. Animals are our gifts and our responsibility. We must behave humanely if we are ever going to evolve as human beings. Please, Deborah Cardenas
Cardenas	Diana	we see..and we base our life in the sense of sight. they hear..and base their life on the sense of hearing. Imagine if there was no light to see because someone decided to test the velocity of light through air..only to gain more knowledge and be

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		more prepared to win a war..Please stop this, as you will harm every single living being that depends on hearing to survive, which are most of the animals in the ocean.
Cardenas	Maria	I am appalled over the decision to use both sonar and explosives inside our precious oceans. The ocean is sacred and home to a life as vibrant and necessary as the dry land we live on. I am sickened over the idea of pollution and death being forced upon these innocent creatures and precious waters. The ocean is not our playground; it is not our property to abuse or mistreat. It is a home and a cooling center for the earth. These exercises are extremely selfish. I am demanding you find another way to train. For hundreds of years people walked on this earth thinking only of themselves. As a result poisons were pumped into the air, land and yes oceans. In our present life we cannot afford to be so ignorant and unenlightened. We have to put the concerns and welfare of ALL elements - people, animals, natural resources - to the forefront in any decision. American is not ignorant. We know better. Do not show a lack of compassion or disregard for this beautiful planet and the gifts our oceans bring to us every single day. Do NOT.
Carey	Sonia	I ask for use of explosives in the ocean to be stopped in order to protect dolphins, whales and other creatures from being injured or killed.
Carley	Ru	The Navy's proposal of increased activity in the eastern Pacific (i.e., Hawaii and California) will be disastrous for marine life, especially for the dolphins and whales. Cetaeceans are dying from sonar blasting, and it seems the Navy couldn't care less. What about Hawaii tourism which relies on healthy oceans? Can you imagine what will happen to tourism when whales and dolphins start washing up on our shores? Thousands of people come to the islands to visit with these creatures. You will be destroying, not helping anything. You need to stop this idea dead in its tracks! Try applying your immense resources and energy to something healthy and productive for the beings on the planet from now on.
Carlson	Ken	I am strongly against the use of the sound testing that endangers dolphins , whales and other sea life. I am writing to ask you to remember the Navy has projected that it will make deaf 1600 whales and dolphins and kill 200 EACH YEAR IN A 7-YEAR PROGRAM in training exercises.
Carpenter	Heather	I am writing to ask the Navy to consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals during planned exercises that involve the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. I learned these planned exercises would kill up to 2,000 marine mammals, including a large number of animals from endangered species, such as right whales. Thousands of others would suffer permanent lung damage. An additional 16,000 would be permanently deafened and 5 million would be temporarily deafened by the exercises. This is horrible!! Whales have stranded and died after major military sonar exercises. If the Navy could avoid the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoid seasonal high-use feeding areas; create a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and use aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed, it could save their lives. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. Please do the right thing. Save all lives!
Carr	Kathleen	I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant

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		reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
Carroll	John	I live in San Diego. I'm a supporter of the Navy. I also understand the need to test systems. But when it comes to this testing, I think we need to look long and hard about the benefits versus the disaster it spells for marine life. Our science has shown us, (and is showing us more everyday) that these are intelligent, curious and at times loving animals. Whales have been shown to display affection to humans who've helped them out of bad situations, like being caught up in fishing line. Should we use our heads when making decisions like this? Of course. But I would contend this decision also needs some input from the heart and when that comes into play the conclusion is obvious. DO NOT CONDUCT THIS TERRIBLY HARMFUL TESTING! Thank You.
Carter	Ginger	I am writing to ask you to protect marine mammals during your sonar exercises on the East Coast and in Hawaii, and anywhere else such exercises are conducted. I am asking you to consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed.
Castillo	Nalini	Hello and thank you for your time, I'm very concerned about this sound testing that is going to take place. I'm trying to understand why this is necessary? Isn't there any other way? We cannot destroy these beautiful creatures that have ever right to be here, just as we do. Dolphins, whales, sea life.. I do appreciate your duty's and how difficult your jobs are, but please can you find another way to do this particular job? I beg you PLEASE DON'T Kill these incredible creatures! Our poor planet is already in such a state! We must pull together now and find alternative ways to help everyone and every living thing! I do thank you for allowing the public to comment, and please feel free to email any information about this topic, how can we fix this ? Please don't kill them! Please!! Signed, Nalini Castillo a concerned human
Cavanagh	Raymond	Raymond C. Cavanagh Vienna VA 22181 July 10, 2012 Comments and Questions about Navy's HSST DEIS/OEIS of May 2012 -- Emphasis is on MMPA and ESA acoustic impact of sonars/projectors and explosives on marine mammals. 1. General Comments 1.1 The sections applying to acoustic impacts are very much like those of previous EISs (viz., USWTR, HRC, SOCAL, etc.). 1.1.1 This is disappointing - given the years that have passed in which the accuracy and readability could have been improved. Errors and misinformation and redundancy abound. More below. 1.1.2 The number of pages devoted to the subject is staggering. [I count about 200 for Vol I alone. This is not to mention the repeated attention to individual species (how many bio-histories do we need?) Why not relegate all of this to appendices or reference papers?] 1.1.3 A modest amount of editing by experts on sonars and explosives and acoustics would do it. The cost would be minimal. 1.1.3.1 A technical editor could help - to reduce the page count to 1/4 of what it is now. But the technical editor's edited text would have to be edited once more by the authors. 1.2 Precision vs accuracy is not explained. This is a perennial problem, as noted by MMC and many others. NMFS' abundance estimates for a single species and a small area to 6 significant figures? What about TL estimates like 67.23 dB? SPLs like the now infamous 169.3 dB? Such reporting misleads the reader - Is accuracy suggested by these inexplicable levels of detail? Better to either fix the number of significant figures or repeat a

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		<p>caveat often in the text about how precision almost never implies accuracy. 1.3 If the goal of the subject sections was to induce sleep in the reader, confuse the reader, gloss over the important points, and hide the main messages, then the goal was more than met. 1.3.1 As a good example, consult the Executive Summary. None of the important issues is given any attention (e.g., what are the take counts, by species and source and action?). 1.4 Even for a veteran of acoustic risk assessments, terminology can be a mystery. 1.4.1 What is a 'Stressor?' A cause of stress? But what is 'stress?' No definition is given for this very often-used term in the text. Why confuse the issue with jargon that is not defined? Are full moons or teenagers partying in the surf or very low wind-speeds stressors? (We searched for 'stressor' in the pdf document, but found no definition) 1.4.2 What is an 'exposure?' Please define. It looks like an exposure is the same as a take. After all, won't the take permit (LOA) be based on the number of exposures listed in the text? (Again, we searched the pdf document but found no definition of exposure.) 1.4.2.1 In a previous NMFS' document, an 'exposure' was defined in two different sections as (a) a sound level above 120 dB or (b) as any sound that the animal could hear! Likewise, NMFS has claimed that as regulator it can make the judgment (even years and years before the action) of whether an exposure is to be counted as a take (for a permit) or not. We have never seen such a determination in a formal take permit request. 1.4.3 Where is 'restart time?' This has been a critical NMFS' pronouncement in many risk assessments. No mention is made here. The importance is that NMFS counts takes of an animal at most once over a restart time. NMFS prescribed restart times have been documented as '24 hours' or 'duration of the exercise' -- whichever is smaller. 1.4.3.1 A review of the SURTASS-LFA FEIS will show that the restart time was of order 10 days -- so that no animal could be taken more than once in that period. The consequences are huge! 1.4.3.2 Restart time gets its name from the logic that the whole take assessment is restarted after that time has elapsed. There is no memory of any previous conditions or 'exposures.' Usually, the take counts for 3 restart times equal 3 times the take counts for 1 restart time. 1.5 Basic and important acoustic quantities are almost never defined correctly, or explained, or defined at all. Some examples follow. 1.5.1 Source Level (SL) for a sonar or projector is complicated and not understood by many. 1.5.1.1 A good example is for SURTASS-LFA in which NMFS and Navy supported a 215 dB (re 1 µPa re 1 m) SL. For compliance and sonar applications, this is 10s of dBs too low for the actual, standard and traditional source level. This misunderstanding by NMFS and Navy is astounding. 1.5.2 There seems to be no understanding of the definitions of SPL, Intensity Level, EFDL, SEL, peak pressure, max SPL, and many more. 1.5.2.1 SEL is not an energy metric; it is new to underwater sound, having its derivation from in-air acoustics. It does not allow for near-field effects, and is independent of medium (same in air as in water). Likewise for SPL as power metric. In air, from whence it came, the units are 1 µPa and assumes a 1 second normalization for pulse length. In current use, by bio-acousticians, the metric for SEL is like that for EFDL (1 µPa²-s). This is very confusing. Why not use EFDL? 1.5.2.2 For a transient signal, SPL has to have many parameters specified to give it any meaning. Many good examples of errors resulting from such lack of definition and confusion about the metric can be provided upon request. The NMFS-Navy Dose Function for sonars provides a great example of confusion about SPL. 1.6 We stop here- but many many more examples can be given as requested.</p>
Cavanagh	Raymond	<p>Raymond C. Cavanagh Vienna VA 22181 July 10, 2012 Comments and Questions about Navy's HSST DEIS/OEIS of May 2012 (Part Two) -- Emphasis is on MMPA and ESA acoustic impact of sonars/projectors and explosives on marine mammals. 2 More Specific Comments and Questions --Sonar Level B (behavioral)Take Counts for an LOA 2.1 Ten's of thousands of 'exposures' (Level B behavioral 'takes') for Sonars?. How can this be? We argue that this is orders of magnitude greater than it should be. 2.1.1 Application of the NMFS' prescribed dose-response functions (DRF) is the problem here. The input RL metric to the DRF must have been miscalculated during the risk assessment. It is supposed to be the 'mean of the mean SPLs 'and not the 'mean of the peak SPLs. ' This is per the SHOUP analysis which led to the infamous 169.3 dB estimate of the 0.5 probability of harassment, as input to the DRF. If the 'mean of the mean SPLs' was used as</p>

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		<p>the RL for the DRF for the HTTS actions, the take counts would be dramatically reduced. We roughly estimate 100 Level B behavioral takes over the year, all of which could be mitigated. Sonar operating modes could reduce this even more. In fact, behavioral takes should almost always be fewer than TTS takes. 2.1.2 The NMFS' DRF form is attributed to Feller Vol 1. (It is a GREAT book and I keep it under my pillow for inspiration). No one has yet found the form in Feller since its use in 1999 for a SURTASS-LFA EIS. NMFS could not find it either - so they said the 'Feller-adapted function.' This has zero basis, and another obfuscation. Can anyone find the citation? (I have an answer, but Feller is not the sole source.) By the way, the formula given in the text 2.1.2 1 The use of the Nowacek et al playback results in construction of the NMFS' DRF is hard to defend. The animal was a mysticete and the alarm signal that caused a reaction was an FM slide from 500 Hz to 4500 Hz over a minute. That signal is not at all similar to a sonar signal - as claimed by Nowacek and NMFS (in writing). NMFS has massaged the result by saying it projected signals within the frequency band of a tactical sonar, or misquoted the bandwidth of the signal ('above 1 kHz). In addition, the signal lasted much longer than any sonar signal. These data distorted greatly the DRF shape and parameters. 2.1.3 For a typical HTTS hull-mounted sonar action, the expected number of takes (as usual, over time and space) does not at all depend on grouping of the animals. Nor does it depend on spatial distribution of the animals, given a non-specific sonar track (also as usual). To say that a take estimate applies to a 'population' of animals and not to a single specific animal (as per NMFS) is contrary to the statistical bases for take counts. 2.2 Level A takes by sonars This is not possible. Collision is more likely. Theories about embolisms, bends, brain trauma etc. as impacts or causes of strandings have never been treated seriously. Any response? 3 More Specific Comments and Questions -- Explosive Take Counts for an LOA 3.1 Precedent is not respected here. The SEAWOLF and CHURCHIL EISs use a different threshold for harassment - specifically the peak 1/3 octave band RL vs the average of the 1/3 octave band RLs.. To say that this is more 'conservative' is not a valid reason for using it. It was approved in the EISs mentioned, and reviewed by many scientists. 3.2 We doubt that the impact estimates involving the Goertner modified positive impulse could be accurate. Very few persons in the world know how this works. Impulse is not the same as positive impulse!! Impulse must be zero. The depth dependence rule is incorrect. 3.3 As we have argued with NMFS, peak pressure is not a reasonable metric for impact on animals. It does not reflect the physics of what happens when an animal (or human) approaches the surface of the water. See the AIR FORCE's JASSM and EGTR EISs for more on this. NMFS spent a lot of time on it. 3.4 'Peak pressure' requires a careful definition for explosives. SPL is not applicable. Peak pressure cannot be measured and must be modeled. 3.5 To infer impact to animals in air from impact in water is controversial - for peak pressure or SEL. Some adhere to the concept that peak pressure itself (independent of the water or air medium) is the metric to use to estimate injury, etc. (See Ketten, Chapman, Craig, and others). Others argue that power or energy (which depend on impedance) are the appropriate metrics. What is the view from the EIS - do we need to apply dual thresholds including peak pressure (independent of impedance). These dual thresholds are key to this EIS.</p>
Cerio	Claudia	<p>Please rethink planned training exercises that use live explosives and high-intensity sonar. The impact on wildlife would be significantly damaging. I would rather these exercises stop altogether but another option is to take steps including avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed.</p>
Chalmers	Kathryn	<p>Please don't do any underwater testing in the oceans. Everything that lives there should have a peaceful life. You will be destroying marine mammals that can not escape the repercussions from testing bombs and other experiments.</p>
Chambers	Jamie	<p>The plans that you currently have and the horrific impact it will have on marine wildlife is simply unacceptable. Considerations should be made and taken very</p>

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		seriously to alter these plans as to avoid the devastating impact your actions will have. By disrupting marine life you ultimately disrupt tourism and therefore the economy in the area. Sick/injured/dead marine life and marine mammals = bad tourism and economy for the area. There are much larger implications here. I plead with you to reconsider.
Chan	Sue Anne	Please do not harm marine life. Don't you see the kind effects it'll do, particularly in the long term? Aren't there other ways? Even if the other methods are not cost efficient or convenient, the harm it'll do to your pockets will benefit in the long term, for everyone, including your association, we're all living in the same place, same earth. Affecting marine life apart from being morally wrong and causing extinction, it in turn, would cause fishermen, and anyone in the field which depends on the ocean and the life in it, to fall. You all are trying to make a living, and so are they. Sooner or later it's going to come back to you anyway. Wake up, and don't go along with this, think of the effects. Hear all the comments flooding the mail system, and listen to them.
Chandler	William	Please do not harm our dolphins and whales.
Chaney	Nancy	Dear Navy Sonar Testing Participants, I want you to stop sonar testing within the Pacific Region. From reading the NOAA stranding report, there is ample evidence that continuing or expanding this practice has the potential to harm an unknown number of marine mammals. Let's not have a repeat performance of the whaling era, albeit through this remote means of death to cetaceans. In reality, the number of stranded animals noted in the report are likely a small percentage of the number of animals killed through the use of oceanic sonar. Please discontinue the use of sonar practice, and keep our cetaceans preserved for future generations. Sincerely, Nancy L. Chaney
Chapman	Michael	We understand the need for protecting our country, but we can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures.
Cherivtch	Carey	We, the American people, are saddened to hear that the Navy is considering conducting exercises involving the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. Do you feel that it is really necessary to conduct this testing that will affect such a volume of marine life? It would be a great pity to see so much of the conservation work the USA has undertaken towards its marine environment over the last number of years being undermined by these proposed exercises. These conservation initiatives deserve to be applauded and have made the USA one of the leaders in marine conservation. To conduct these exercises flies in the face of all the good work and progress that has been achieved to date. There is also the issue of sound channels in the oceans that can carry sounds over vast distances, so not only local populations may be affected but also populations in areas seemingly far removed from the testing activities. As these activities could potentially affect endangered species on both the high seas and possibly in the territorial waters of other nations we believe that any other nations that could potentially be affected should be fully consulted, and the findings of any such consultations made public, prior to any decision being made on whether these activities should progress to the next stage. We would ask you to give serious consideration to just how necessary these proposed exercises are and where the benefits of them lie versus the destruction of marine life that so many dedicated citizens have worked tirelessly to preserve and enhance for both current and future generations. We look forward to hearing from you with your views on the above.
Cheshelski	Cali	The Sonar testing you are doing in the ocean is killing whales, dolphins, and God knows what else. This has been proven, the Navy has been aware of it for sometime now, yet you continue. My daughter of 12 years old was watching Animal Planet, unaware of what she was about to see, I also had become interested in the program at this point. This program was filmed in the Ocean where they were recording sounds of the Orcas and other whales, unaware of your testing the crew that was recording was completely caught off guard by the events to follow. The beautiful sounds of the whales communicating were shattered by a horrible sound, followed by complete panic coming from every direction. The sounds/shreaks coming from these precious animals were indescribable, terror and screams of being tortured alive is about as close as I can get to describe. A lot like the screams coming from 100's of dolphins being speared with metal rods to die a slow painful

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		death in Taiji Japan. I watched the cove by mistake and I will tell you that is a sound I have never forgotten. Please stop this Sonar testing, there are so many inhumane acts of violence, tortures, killings of animals/ people around the world, please don't be the reason for the deaths of these beautiful animals. I must add one thing. The people recording these Orcas, the looks on their faces, the tears welling up in their eyes, the sadness and hopeless look along with complete shock, knowing there was nothing they could do to help these poor animals was about all I could handle. My eyes also started to burn and I shut the T.V. off with disbelief of what I was seeing. Please, please step down on this testing, it is not worth it. I know you will do what it is that you have decided already, and I can only hope that our Navy Defense has already decided to abort Sonar Testing. We are the United States of America, and we just have to stand for something good in today's world. Honor, Respect, some sort of kindness. Thank you for giving us "we the people" an opportunity to comment on your Sonar Testing, I pray that you will make the right decision for humanity reasons. Sincerely, Cali Cheshelski Calimesa, California
Chinchelli	Emiliano	Please don't do it! There is no need for it.
Chitrik	Hanna	Why are you wanting or planning to conduct testing on the last remains of ocean natural habitat left on the east and west coast. We know that in the past, whales have stranded and died in the wake of major military sonar exercises, with bleeding from the ears and other tissue damage attributed to sonar. These have included incidents of beaked whales dying in the Canary Islands following sonar exercises, the panicked flight of orcas and porpoises off Washington State in 2003, and dozens of whales (including pregnant females) from several species who died in North Carolina in 2005. These tragedies can be avoided to a very significant degree. We are saddened to hear that the Navy is considering conducting exercises involving the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. Do you feel that it is really necessary to conduct this testing that will affect such a volume of marine life? It would be a great pity to see so much of the conservation work the USA has undertaken towards its marine environment over the last number of years being undermined by these proposed exercises. These conservation initiatives deserve to be applauded and have made the USA one of the leaders in marine conservation. To conduct these exercises flies in the face of all the good work and progress that has been achieved to date. There is also the issue of sound channels in the oceans that can carry sounds over vast distances, so not only local populations may be affected but also populations in areas seemingly far removed from the testing activities. As these activities could potentially affect endangered species on both the high seas and possibly in the territorial waters of other nations we believe that any other nations that could potentially be affected should be fully consulted, and the findings of any such consultations made public, prior to any decision being made on whether these activities should progress to the next stage. We would ask you to give serious consideration to just how necessary these proposed exercises are and where the benefits of them lie versus the destruction of marine life that so many dedicated citizens have worked tirelessly to preserve and enhance for both current and future generations. Thanks Hanna Chitrik hychitrik@yahoo.com
Cho	Susan	It is unethical to harm other animals unless absolutely necessary. We have ways of collecting information and defending ourselves that do not necessitate harming so many innocent lives. In fact, when we try to enhance our own lives at the expense of others', we usually end up compromising our own security. Aquatic ecology is especially vulnerable these days; we need to be especially circumspect in this area. Please cancel the training. Thank you,
Christian	David	Dear Navy, it is not in our national interest to conduct high power sonar and explosives testing in the waters around Hawaii or anywhere at all. The needless death and harm inflicted on marine life outweighs what little benefit will be achieved. I know you guys like to blow <i>[Expletive deleted]</i> up. I wish I could play with the toys you guys get to use and most REAL men (and a lot of women) enjoy the thrill of really big fireworks, but killing thousands and dolphins and whales just isn't worth the price... Thank you for your attention ;o)
Cicchino	Renee M.	Hello. I am an avid scuba diver and diving instructor who appreciates the variety of LIFE OUR ocean holds and in doing so, RESPECT the life contained in it. I, Renee

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		M. Cicchino, a tax paying citizen of the United States of America DO NOT grant the US Navy permission to conduct any test which is harmful or causes death in ANY MARINE or migratory animal/mammal in the waters in which I dive! I am requesting that the US Navy finds another way to test sound/sonar than to do so in the waters that hold life - life that I and thousands of other divers, pay to experience every time we go diving. With all of the resources at the US Navy's disposal, why must you continue to test in such a barbaric way. Since there is a killing quota, the NAVY acknowledges the danger to marine life. Why not find alternative ways to test??? Computer technology, 3-D simulation something other than to harm and/or kill life that is VITAL to US as a species. Be greater than that US NAVY!!! Be BETTER than Japan, China, Norway - Show the WORLD, there are alternatives than to rape and pillage the ocean. BE A LEADER! Please. Sincerely, Renee M. Cicchino West Orange, NJ 07052
Cina	Christine	Please stop the explosions you are hurting the Dolphins and Whales!!!
Clare-Newman	Constance	While I am all for the navy doing the work it needs to in order to keep our country safe, I am concerned about marine life and the eco-systems in which we live in peace and in war. Please do what you can to reduce the impact on dolphins, whale and other sea life, finding alternate ways to do the testing necessary. Please continue to think outside the box! Thank-you.
Clark	Gretchen	I understand the need for protecting our country, but another way can be found to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures. Please reconsider.
Clark	Helen	Please stop the Sonar testing. It is hurting the Sea Mammals.
Cloutier	M Victor	This testimony is to express my concerns for underwater sonar testing. You are well aware of the impact of sonar testing to marine mammals. In particular, observations you have already made in previous testing and exercises: 1) Sonar caused panic reactions leading to strandings followed by death 2) Sonar caused decompression sickness (the bends) followed by death 3) The bends caused by sonar even in the absence of panic I would like to add that there are always unintended consequences that even intelligent people like you overlook, such as cultural and spiritual. You are well advised to give that proper consideration.
Cole	Annette	Why can't this testing be done out in deeper waters, instead of along the coasts?
Comito	Laura	Please do not test and cause harm to the area dolphins and whales. They have no way to speak for themselves so I am speaking for them.
Concoff	Heather	There is much we don't know about whales but we do know they are highly intelligent, social, highly evolved mammals. We know their brains have as much or more surface area than ours which suggests their intelligence may parallel ours though it may be a very different kind of intelligence. Many marine mammal species are endangered because of human impacts upon their environment or hunting. Some whale populations which were in the past endangered are just beginning to return because of education and protection. We have no right to knowingly permanently injure these living creatures who never purposefully injure humans unless first provoked. The Navy has admitted that the sonar tests will cause harm to whales and dolphins ranging from discomfort to disorientation to permanent deafness which would interfere with navigation, self defense and finding food thereby seriously impairing their ability to survive. Increased beaching and deaths of marine mammals have certainly been linked to previous Navy sound testing. Unless it is a time of war with imminent threat these tests should not be performed in areas known to be frequently passaged by whales and dolphins or within effective range of whales and dolphins. Please limit Navy sound testing to areas outside the known paths of migration, reproduction and feeding of whales and dolphins and other effected marine mammals. Please also require scanning for the presence of marine mammals within the disturbance zone prior to testing and delay testing until the marine mammals depart from the affected area. Unless the rights of these marine mammals are respected, I cannot condone Navy sound testing.
Concoff	Richard	Please stop this kind of testing. It is detrimental to whales and other marine mammals which it is our duty to protect. Thank you.
Coniglio	Christine	This is beyond cruel and MUST STOP !!!
Conrad	Laurie	re: the use of high frequency underwater sound for testing in Hawaii, the California

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		and Atlantic Coasts, and the Gulf of Mexico. Stop this testing NOW - it will deafen many whales and dolphins and kill more of them. Just horrid and cruel!
Corey	Cynthia	I have just finished reading much of the EIS/OEIS report. I am especially concerned on the impacts of the Navy's explosive and sonar testing in the Pacific areas addressed in the report. I want to firmly protest the negative impacts this proposed testing will have on the whales, dolphin and other mammals in this area. The thought that any amount of these species being harmed, in such as way as to drive them from their habitat of the coastal areas there, that are their feeding and mating grounds is unacceptable. Even worse to see it is quantified and acceptable to cause deafness, tissue damage and general suffering, or whatever pain and discomfort these tests cause is beyond just unacceptable into the highly objectionable range. How can the military of the United States depend on, design and plan to implement a project to save human life by increasing our security when it is dependent on the loss of other life that are not our enemies and cohabitate peacefully beside us? This is a flawed argument with a bias against other species even to their death and displacement. I believe that the mammals and all creatures of this earth have the unquestionable right to live freely without harassment, suffering or pain inflicted on them by any of our human activities. We do not possess this right to do so and any action that harms another and so grievously with forethought is immoral, ignorant and totally without merit. I therefore state my objection to this testing, to the premise this testing rests on and any future execution of this plan. I firmly resolve to do what i can, within the power i have as a citizen of this land to stop, object, publicize, promote dissent, inform, and disperse this information and its disastrous consequences to all parties within my circle of influence with the intention of collectively working to thwart, stop and beseech the United States of America Navy, its generals, our congress and our President to remove any authorization to proceed with such a plan. In short, please reassess- its egregious and i would be ashamed for any agency of my country to be engaging in these horrendous practices under the banner of protection of our rights, liberty and lives. We are not the only ones living here. Sincerely, C. Corey
Costa	Naila	please do not conduct these tests. thousands of animals will be tortured, deafened, and other thousands will die.
Cox	Kim	Please protect marine mammals from the effects of sonar testing as recommended by the HSUS. Thank you.
Coyle	Kate	We can all appreciate the many jobs the U.S. Navy performs, national security and education in particular. Proposed exercises are known to cause great harm to marine life. While we are protecting the U.S.A., it seems we would want to protect the health of our oceans. My hope is the Navy will take all steps possible to minimize damage. The health of our oceans aids in keeping our country strong. Please take every marine life safety step you can. Thank You for your consistent hard work, Kate
Craddock	Noah	I truly do support our armed forces. I know that we need to conduct training exercises in order to further our technology, however, I do not approve of doing so in such a way that endangers wildlife. Please find an alternate solution. I know that you can find other means to ensure both our safety, and the safety of innocent lives. Thank you, A concerned and supportive citizen.
Cramer	Lindsey	I am concerned for the well-being of the marine mammals that may be impacted by sonar and other naval testing. This Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) estimates more than 1,600 marine mammals each year will suffer from hearing loss or other injury from its use of sonar and explosives over the next five years. The EIS also predicts 200 sea mammals could die each year in its Hawaiian and Southern California training and testing areas. I know protective measures are put in place but marine mammals are very important to people and hold a lot of value. Please consider the least harmful alternative.
Cranden	Erica	I find the news of the Navy testing explosives and sonar to be both distressing and altogether horrifying. I cannot believe that our country would sacrifice and put in harm's way so many living things. These are not simply after-thoughts; they are living, breathing, feeling, thinking animals. They do not deserve this kind of careless and thoughtless mistreatment. Please reconsider for the sake of our oceans and these incredible animals we have fought so hard to protect over the years.

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Crawford	Valerie	I love my cozy life in the U.S. as a native born citizen, and I want it to continue. I value our Navy, and its role in protecting our country. But..... injuring, terrifying and/or killing the ocean animals for testing explosives and sonar is not acceptable. Please accept this message from a U.S. citizen who abhors the Navy's testing procedures in the world's oceans, and will always stand up against it. Sincerely, Valerie Crawford McMinnville, OR
Cresko	Jill	It is AWFUL that Marine life,such as Dolphins and Whales are severely affected by the Sonar Operations. The Navy should work with NRDC to find ways to eliminate the impact on these species. I am sure the majority of the American people would agree!
Cullen	John	I fully support the Navy's training and testing activities to the extent necessary, regardless of any so-called environmental effects.
Cunningham-Welsh	Mary	I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals.Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life.These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
Curington	Alexi	To the US Navy: Please do not carry through on your proposal to conduct training exercises all along the U.S. East Coast and in the rich marine environment off the coast of California and Hawaii, involving the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. I understand the need for protecting our country, but you can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures. If testing plans as they stand happens, it will KILL 17,700 cetaceans. Without their hearing, dolphins will be unable to use their echolocation to hunt. Whales will not be able to communicate. It will make it impossible for all cetaceans to survive. Please rethink this!This operation should not be allowed to go through. The consequences are far too severe. Sincerely, Alexi Curington, Seattle, WA
Cutillo	Donna	Please stop the testing on whales!
Daly	Kimberly	I am saddened to hear that the U.S. Navy is proposing to conduct training exercises in the rich marine environment off the coast of California and Hawaii. These exercises would involve the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. According to its own Environmental Impact Statements, the Navy estimates that the planned exercises would kill up to 2,000 marine mammals, including a large number of animals from endangered species, such as right whales. Thousands of others would suffer permanent lung damage. An additional 16,000 would be permanently deafened and 5 million would be temporarily deafened by the exercises. I understand the need for protecting our country, but we can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures. I urge you to please do just that.

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Daniels	Jeanne	SUCH GREAT GIFTS TO THE EARTH, THESE MAGNIFICENT SPECIES ... WHY MUST WE ALWAYS CRIPPLE OR DESTROY THEM? THE NAVY IS BIG ENOUGH TO FIND ANOTHER WAY AND SHOULD BE ASHAMED IF IT DOESN'T! SURELY MEN OF THE SEA WOULD RESPECT THOSE THEY SHARE WATERS WITH!
Das	Victor	Dear U.S. Navy, Please protect marine mammals from explosives and sonar. Thanks, Victor
Dash	Lisa	I am writing to protest the testing of weapons that cause mass cetacean injury and death.This is a terrible way to waste a lot of money.
Daussat Adamina	Juanita	I must protest this appalling proposal resulting in a disaster for a great many fellow creatures.I have lived through four wars and have some knowledge of both duty and catastrophe engineered by man.Please do not inflict destruction on already imperiled life on our precious and fragile planet.If we have the technology and willingness to explore our universe why must we destroy life as we go?We have a solemn obligation as well !as a vested interest in our survival, but first we must preserve what remains of our integrity in preserving it for life's other manifestations here!! spent my entire fifty years of married life as the proud wife of an Officer, if this proposal is implemented, that pride and faith will be tarnished..how sad for us all who believe in the human impulse to nurture life not destroy it.Juanita D. Adamina
Davis	Angelika	STOP THIS MADNESS! The U.S. Navy is proposing to conduct training exercises all along the U.S. East Coast and in the rich marine environment off the coast of California and Hawaii. These exercises would involve the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. According to its own Environmental Impact Statements, the Navy estimates that the planned exercises would kill up to 2,000 marine mammals, including a large number of animals from endangered species, such as right whales. Thousands of others would suffer permanent lung damage. An additional 16,000 would be permanently deafened and 5 million would be temporarily deafened by the exercises. We understand the need for protecting our country, but we can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures. I AM APPALLED BY THIS TRAINING/KILLING ECERCISE. STOP THIS MADNESS angelika davis citizen and taxpayer of the USA
De Meurisse	Sheila	This potential disaster must not be allowed to happen. As Americans we are proud of the U.S. Navy and the work being done to protect our protectour country, but to put marine mammals at such cruel and inhumane dangerwould lead to embarassment and protests from all other concerned countries. We should protect, preserve and respect these mammals to the highest degree possible. I urge the Navy to take the appropriate action put forth in the letter. Respectfully Sheila de Meurisse
De Tavira	Francisco	Please protect marine mammals from explosives and sonar, Thanks in advance
Decaro	Rhea	Please.. there are other ways to test sonic water frequency range missiles. I know there is a war on, and I know that the NAVY is terrified of the potentiality of long range missiles, but there has to be another way ... a pool or some form of testing that would not do undue damage to which the likes of which a military based operation does not seem to care about. The biological aspects should intertwine with the safety of human kind, because we are animals, with animals and although we have the potentiality to do what we think we can, this will result in hardships of which will cause a cataclysmic undue hardship and end to life to which the ecology of it tying it to our own selves will be unable to right once it is wronged. Please don't be the bad guys, I know you want to be the good ones and save people but this effects people too.
Defalco Lippert	Regina	How many more whales and dolphins have to die before you admit that Navy testing is causing it???? Cetaceans face enough threats, from toxic pollution to habitat destruction to death from impacts by ships, to outright killing by humans. Stop contributing to their deaths and cease all sonar and other testing that is harming them!
Dente	Fred	This can't be a fair process unless communities up and down the entire Pacific coast have hearings in them. I am completely against any military expansion, any sonar at all, and war games anywhere in the world. The military is bankrupting the nation, and creating terrorists by their oppressive presence and their brutal tactics.

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		Bring the troops home. Stop the endless war for the profit of a few. End America's reign of terror, now!
Devine	Richard	Errors may sometimes represent approximations to successes or correct paths; other times errors may reveal a total lack of connection to successful paths. Errors of misemphasis or overemphasis can be very serious, as in the U.S. Navy's testing of sonar devices, seriously affecting marine life yet not responsive to a clear and present danger. While sonar is a useful, and necessary device, the over-testing of finely calibrated sonar draws attention away from more serious military matters. Over testing can lead to a false sense of preventing dangers and divert attention from the most serious problems.
Devine	Robert	I would like to make the observation that the supposed benefit of the scale of sonar testing/training does not justify the potential harm to marine wildlife. History teaches us that the majority of national security decisions relating to naval matters do not largely rest on technical or technological matters. The fact that the US Navy over-obsesses about technical matters has been noted by many authors. Indeed the decisive moments of US naval history have not been decided by technology but rather by poor decision-making and a lack of understanding of opponents motives. Pearl Harbor, USS Cole, USS Maine, USS Vincennes (CG-49), USS Pueblo, Gulf of Tonkin....etc. These are not moments when history was changed by Sonar technology but by flawed decision-making. Better to save the marine life and concentrate on wargaming and proper decision-making. Sonar is only a tool but is becoming a fixation for the US Navy. The US Navy should also push for rules limiting the use of Sonar by foreign navies as well - to be enforced by international monitoring and sanctions if rules are violated.
Diamond	Kristina	Please do NOT test in ocean around Hawaii and California. Do NOT see any good that can come from such knowing torture our ocean life will go through. This type of testing and training is unnecessary. Please think of other ways that will not impact our oceans and environment to do testing/training exercises. Thank You for your time. If the Navy follows through with this kind of cruel activity, i will re-consider my support and thoughts towards the U.S. Navy. I will be sharing this issue with everyone i know on all types of media available. Thank You and hope you do not follow through with testing/training in Hawaiian/California waters.
Diaz	Michael	To whomever it may concern: I am very concern that our marine wild life will be harmed by the navy testing of sonar in our oceans please think about our marine life which is already been harmed by the environment as well excessive testing in the ocean waters. Stop the testing and save our marine life from extinction. Let our marine life live in peace and not in misery. The marine life is here for us to enjoy and not to destroy.
Dietrich	Beate	I am outraged at the navy's action towards our marine life and oceans. Using DISORIEBTING Sonar should not be used at all anywhere in the world. This is directly directed at all sea life, especially our marine mammals and other human species. I cannot believe that our own Navy is involved in the permanent destruction of our Whales, Dolphins and other Marine Life, destrying family after family with Sonar and also Target Practice. Who knows what else is being done to those highly intelligent creatures. I urge the end of this plan for a five year expansion to destroy our Pacific/Atlantic Coast. This inhumane practice needs to end. No more Sonar Killings of our earths mammals. Please Respect our Oceans.
Disch	Steve	Please refrain from the planned bombing and detonation of explosives in the ocean. It will cause irreparable harm to marine species. It is cruel and unnecessary. Thank you.
Doak	Emily	We must stop pretending that the effects of our human actions are unimportant and that the value human life is greater than other life, it is not. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
Dobson	Diane	Please stop the undersea high frequency, or at least redesign it in a way the does not harm whales and dolphins. Your own estimates of killing 1800 whales and dolphins, and deafening as many as 15,900??? How are we any better than

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		whaling nations like Norway and Japan? We aren't. The United States is being covert and hypocritical in allowing this. Naval practices are much more lethal to endangered sea life than any other "whaling" nation. This is WRONG.
Dooley	Milissa	Please do not begin testing in the waters surrounding Hawaii putting any of these precious and amazing animals at risk of injury including hearing loss or worse yet - death. The animals of this area are unbelievable and should NOT be put at risk for any reason. This is such a God given spectacular environment and it should be preserved.
Dorothy	Katherine	This is heartless and inhumane what gives you the right to take away or harm these beautiful creatures some of them may be gone forever how do you take this away from our children and grandchildren
Downs	Mike	Sonar testing is dangerous to marine life,you are destroying life.This sonar testing is more dangerous than good...please stop!
Doyle	Beth	I have recently read about the Navy's plan to use sonar testing which will damage hearing on whales and dolphins which will result in a slow lingering death to whales and dolphins whose existence now is hanging by a thread, a thread which connects all of us. We humans have done so much damage to this beautiful planet. The creatures on this planet are to be revered and respected and yet we continue on with species disappearing on a daily basis. What is going to be left for future generations? Why do you need to test battle equipment when we are not at war, except a war in which the creatures and the environment on this planet struggle to survive in spite of damage caused by man to the environment. Every time a military "test" is conducted, every time a gun is made, every time a warship is launched, every time a rocket is fired steals from real things needed on this planet, including the whales and the dolphins you seek to destroy. Furthermore you are not spending and wasting just money and destroying endangered species, you are spending the work of people who should otherwise be helping this planet, you are taking the genius of its scientists who should be finding ways to save the environment and you are taking away the hopes of its children who should be able to see beautiful things in the world. Further as a taxpayer, and as someone who pays your salary and benefits and healthcare and pension and retirement and who also pays for the equipment you use and as someone who works 2 jobs to do so and as someone who cares about the environment, I am requesting a written response from you as to why this testing is being done and as to why these animals mean so little.
Doyle	Edward	I fail to see the long-term term benefit of endangering a species that are already under a great deal of pressure. I urge you to reconsider.
Dozier	Amy	I understand the need for protecting our country, but we can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures. In the past, whales have stranded and died in the wake of major military sonar exercises, with bleeding from the ears and other tissue damage attributed to sonar. These have included incidents of beaked whales dying in the Canary Islands following sonar exercises, the panicked flight of orcas and porpoises off Washington State in 2003, and dozens of whales (including pregnant females) from several species who died in North Carolina in 2005. These tragedies can be avoided to a very significant degree by taking certain steps. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed.
Drake	Suzi	This should have been stopped long ago.
Dressin	Aaron	We are saddened to hear that the Navy is considering conducting exercises involving the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. Do you feel that it is really necessary to conduct this testing that will affect such a volume of marine life? It would be a great pity to see so much of the conservation work the USA has undertaken towards its marine environment over the last number of years being undermined by these proposed exercises. These conservation initiatives deserve to be applauded and have made the USA one of the leaders in marine

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		<p>conservation. To conduct these exercises flies in the face of all the good work and progress that has been achieved to date. There is also the issue of sound channels in the oceans that can carry sounds over vast distances, so not only local populations may be affected but also populations in areas seemingly far removed from the testing activities. As these activities could potentially affect endangered species on both the high seas and possibly in the territorial waters of other nations we believe that any other nations that could potentially be affected should be fully consulted, and the findings of any such consultations made public, prior to any decision being made on whether these activities should progress to the next stage. We would ask you to give serious consideration to just how necessary these proposed exercises are and where the benefits of them lie versus the destruction of marine life that so many dedicated citizens have worked tirelessly to preserve and enhance for both current and future generations. We look forward to hearing from you with your views on the above, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us, yours, Aaron Dressin</p>
Duggan	Karen	<p>I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.</p>
Duncan	Sara	<p>I am very concerned about the impact your testing will have on our precious marine mammals. There is so much destruction and toxicity already in our oceans. Please reconsider and make the best choice for all of life.</p>
Eaise	Florence	<p>I am writing to ask that the Navy protect marine animals from explosives and sonar along the east coasts and California/ Hawaii coasts. Please rethink your plans and incorporate protective measures for marinelife. I thank you! Ms. Florence Eaise</p>
Eaton	Michelle	<p>Sonar and radar impact the whales and dolphins in a harmful way. Please discontinue testing in their waters.</p>
Ebert	Sophie	<p>We are saddened to hear that the Navy is considering conducting exercises involving the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. Do you feel that it is really necessary to conduct this testing that will affect such a volume of marine life? It would be a great pity to see so much of the conservation work the USA has undertaken towards its marine environment over the last number of years being undermined by these proposed exercises. These conservation initiatives deserve to be applauded and have made the USA one of the leaders in marine conservation. To conduct these exercises flies in the face of all the good work and progress that has been achieved to date. There is also the issue of sound channels in the oceans that can carry sounds over vast distances, so not only local populations may be affected but also populations in areas seemingly far removed from the testing activities. As these activities could potentially affect endangered</p>

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		species on both the high seas and possibly in the territorial waters of other nations we believe that any other nations that could potentially be affected should be fully consulted, and the findings of any such consultations made public, prior to any decision being made on whether these activities should progress to the next stage. We would ask you to give serious consideration to just how necessary these proposed exercises are and where the benefits of them lie versus the destruction of marine life that so many dedicated citizens have worked tirelessly to preserve and enhance for both current and future generations. We look forward to hearing from you with your views on the above, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us, yours, sophie ebert
Ebrahimian	Babak	I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
Eck	Carolyn	Please think about what you are doing before you act. Much of the marine life will be needlessly destroyed if you proceed with these tests. Surely with your advanced technology you could find less destructive means to make your target. I ask that you please put an end to these training tactics and keep our ocean life safe the same way you keep this country safe.
Edwards	Ann	Please do as little testing as possible that would harm the marine life...dolphins and whales, etc. We appreciate your exercises to keep America safe! But also don't want to harm marine life!!! THANK YOU!
Edwards	David	I am a gainfully employed citizen who has served in the United States Military. I am not a 'tree-hugger', or some wild-eyed lefty. I believe in having a robust military that is capable of defending our country. However, the routine sacrificing of so many marine mammals in the name of national defense is unacceptable. These are intelligent animals, and are a vital part of our marine ecosystem. We, as humans, can figure out alternative methods to meet our security needs..... we are better than this. Respectfully, David Edwards San Diego, CA
Elise	Koller	"NO SONAR IN OR NEAR HAWAII, NO SONAR IN OR NEAR CALIFORNIA, NO SONAR IN THE PACIFIC OCEAN, NO SONAR AT ALL! STOP!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! IT TORTURES AND KILLS WHALES AND DOLPHINS!!! dO YOU REALLY WANT THIS???"
Engert	Christina	Please consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals of the planned training exercises. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood

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		that extraordinary numbers of whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. Please re-think the training exercise plans as they are currently proposed and incorporate additional protective measures. Thank you.
Engh	Maureen	I concur with John Flynn: I too am saddened to hear that the Navy is considering conducting exercises involving the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. Do you feel that it is really necessary to conduct this testing that will affect such a volume of marine life? It would be a great pity to see so much of the conservation work the USA has undertaken towards its marine environment over the last number of years being undermined by these proposed exercises. These conservation initiatives deserve to be applauded and have made the USA one of the leaders in marine conservation. To conduct these exercises flies in the face of all the good work and progress that has been achieved to date. There is also the issue of sound channels in the oceans that can carry sounds over vast distances, so not only local populations may be affected but also populations in areas seemingly far removed from the testing activities. As these activities could potentially affect endangered species on both the high seas and possibly in the territorial waters of other nations we believe that any other nations that could potentially be affected should be fully consulted, and the findings of any such consultations made public, prior to any decision being made on whether these activities should progress to the next stage. Please give serious consideration to just how necessary these proposed exercises are and where the benefits of them lie versus the destruction of marine life that so many dedicated citizens have worked tirelessly to preserve and enhance for both current and future generations. I look forward to hearing from you with your views on the above. Sincerely Yours, Maureen Engh
Ephigene	Stephanie	I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please act in favour of the whales
Epperson	Kathleen	Is it true that our Navy's use of high frequency underwater sound for testing in Hawaii, the California and Atlantic Coasts, and the Gulf of Mexico could deafen 15,900 whales and dolphins and kill 1,800 more? If yes, I petition that the Navy stop this program. Thank you, Kathleen
Evans	Amanda	It is utterly inconceivable to me how backward, inhumane and sociopathic the Americans can be when it comes to their defense forces. You cut the legs off live goats, train and kill dolphins and dogs and now you propose to wipe out millions of marine mammals for some testing. GET OVER YOURSELVES. This is not your planet to destroy. One day in history people will observe you and your actions and they will be horrified by how blinkered and backward a society you are. It is inconceivable to me that a government would even allow such a violent and destructive training practice to ensue. I will circulate this story on my blog, facebook

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		and all over the internet if this really goes through. People in the world are waking up to you and your dastardly acts. This is an opportunity to do the right thing - DO IT. Amanda Evans
Evans	Amy	You need to re-thing your testing ideas and consider the thousands of helpless mammals you are going to injure and kill. What about considering the environment and the animals in it that we continue to distory every single day. The Navy should go back to the drawing board and think about what impact its having on the world in which we live in; the world that is not going to exist for long if we continue are distructive human ways. As an American citizen who pays taxes, I strongly urge you to stop this and please reconsider the very harmfu actions you are about to take.
Evans	Dawn	I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
Evans	Elizabeth	The U.S. Navy is proposing to conduct training exercises all along the U.S. East Coast and in the rich marine environment off the coast of California and Hawaii. These exercises would involve the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. According to its own Environmental Impact Statements, the Navy estimates that the planned exercises would kill up to 2,000 marine mammals, including a large number of animals from endangered species, such as right whales. Thousands of others would suffer permanent lung damage. An additional 16,000 would be permanently deafened and 5 million would be temporarily deafened by the exercises. THIS IS NOT EXCEPTABLE! The careless project would not just kill a few already ENDANGERED marine mammals but thousands! What will there be left?? The environmental impact would be devastating! This not only affects all ocean animals but humans as well! Not only do oil spills and Asian countries such as China and Japan hunt hundreds of whales and dolphins and other marine mammals. But THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA is posing a threat worse??? The navy is a brave organization and does many things for our country but this new proposed plan and the effects it will create is just wrong!! I thought we were smarter and more civilized them that! America wants to help the earth not destroy it! That's what makes out country great! We take into consideration things other countries don't! Well this proposed act is NOT doing anything to help the country but destroy part of the planet EVERYONE shares!!! God made this planet all the animals, the enviorment the fish in the sea Everything! It's not meant to be risked or be destroyed. We are smarter then that! I pray this act gets overturned! People who swim in the water will be exposed to the harmful effects as well! The fish that humans eat from the ocean will be contaminated with radiation as well leading humans to be internally affected!! This new project is not a far cry from the

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		numerous atom bomb tests in the 50's. Except it will permantly damage much more! PLEASE PLEASE consider differant options for this project! All of us share the planet animals and humans! Please help it to be better for the future!!
Evans	Kimberly	THIS IS SO DISRESPECTFUL TO THE BASIC RIGHTS OF THE OCEAN, AND THE INHABITANTS OF THE OCEAN, AND THEREFORE ALL LIVING THINGS BECAUSE WE ARE ALL CONNECTED AS ONE LIVING EARTH. FOR GOD'S SAKE, PLEASE STOP THIS INHUMANE BEHAVIOR/PROCEDURE!
Fain	Marla	I can appreciate how live testing is a better form of training, but the detrimental consequences to marine and mammal life are so great I am against this training and testing program. Sincerely, Marla Fain
Fallon	Jennifer	I find it appalling and deeply disturbing that this level of damage to marine creatures is being contemplated. There must be some way, or hopefully many ways, to reduce these terrible consequences.
Fanizza	Lorraine	Unbelievable,that our own Navy would cause such pain and death for our marine mammals. You must stop!
Farhadi	Jim	When I heard about the U.S. Navy's Environmental Impact for training and testing in the ocean around Hawaii and California during the next five years I was shocked. I wish to be added to the petition to stop such activity. Thank you!
Ferry	Becky	I am in the UK - I volunteer for a charity which rescues stranded marine mammals. Have you ever seen a whale up close, & tried to help him survive? No, I think not. All animals are precious, as humans we are responsible for caring for them & protecting them, not continually destroying them & their habitats. You should be ashamed this activity is even being considered. You need to rethink your plans, with immediate effect.
Firestone	Genevieve	Please do not do this! These beautiful animals have a right to live in their ocean without being killed or deafened by YOUR TESTING. This is their home, not yours.
Fischer	Antoinette	Please do not allow any marine life to be damaged in any way by any training, testing, or drills of any kind. I am very pleased to see that the Navy does have a program in place to protect marine life. My sincere hope is that this program is implemented and carried out with the highest standards of integrity,and that integrity will be unfaltering. Marine mammals are threatened in so many ways at this time. We must all protect these species from any further abuse. I thank the Navy for stepping up to the plate, and responding with a program to protect these precious creatures. Most Sincerely, Antoinette Fischer Wife of a Wartime Navy Veteran
Fisher	Kathleen	Please cease and desist and do not further plan to test explosives and utilize sonar and other devices which will disrupt and harm Marine life, particularly cetaceans.
Fisher	Stacey	Please DO NOT conduct training exercises all along the U.S. East Coast and in the rich marine environment off the coast of California and Hawaii. There is no need for the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar that kills our ocean life. They have just as much right to live freely without threat as all the humans of the earth.
Flagg	Bob	I support the following statement by Dr.Gans: There is much we don't know about whales but we do know they are highly intelligent, social, highly evolved mammals. We know their brains have as much or more surface area than ours which suggests their intelligence may parallel ours though it may be a very different kind of intelligence. Many marine mammal species are endangered because of human impacts upon their environment or hunting. Some whale populations which were in the past endangered are just beginning to return because of education and protection. We have no right to knowingly permanently injure these living creatures who never purposefully injure humans unless first provoked. The Navy has admitted that the sonar tests will cause harm to whales and dolphins ranging from discomfort to disorientation to permanent deafness which would interfere with navigation, self defense and finding food thereby seriously impairing their ability to survive. Increased beaching and deaths of marine mammals have certainly been linked to previous Navy sound testing. Unless it is a time of war with imminent threat these tests should not be performed in areas known to be frequently passaged by whales and dolphins or within effective range of whales and dolphins. Please limit Navy sound testing to areas outside the known paths of migration, reproduction and feeding of whales and dolphins and other effected marine mammals. Please also require scanning for the presence of marine mammals

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		within the disturbance zone prior to testing and delay testing until the marine mammals depart from the affected area. Unless the rights of these marine mammals are respected, I cannot condone Navy sound testing. Most sincerely, Patricia B Gans MD
Folman	Patricia	Please stop the abuse of marine mammals through the U.S. Navy !!
Ford	Jennifer	We understand the need for protecting our country, but we can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures. PLEASE protect marine mammals from explosives and sonar!!
Forst	Fran	Hi, What is the Navy doing to animals off the coasts of California and Hawaii? Please think of them before you start. Thanks, Fran
Forsythe	Carla	Please incorporate additional protective measures to protect the dolphins and other marine mammals, please consider them . What a horrible painful death they suffer . Being The United States Pacific Fleet of the U. S. Navy, i feel that it is your duty to protect all creatures God has created. After all it is their home that was created for them ,that you encroach upon exposing them to danger .Thank you for taking the time to read this comment. I `m counting on you to do everything that can be done to protect our marine mammals .
Foster	David	I understand national security, but is the risk that great that our Navy has to bang its sonar so loud that it disorients and damages the creatures in the sea? I work with a former sailor and he thinks not. Yes, he's just one and I am just one, but collectively we are all. What is done must be done for the good of all. I am not convinced that these "war games" and sonar tests are necessary due to such a great threat. Do we really have an enemy what will attack us from the sea? The enemy can get to us without that and proved it on 9/11/01. Do we really have intentions of attacking another country? There is no winner in war. If we destroy the sea life, we destroy ourselves. Man must evolve and stop leading us all to extinction. We don't inhabit this planet. We are an integral part of the Earth life system. I would hope that the one that claims to be the most intelligent species on the planet would not responsible for destroying it. Sincerely, David J. Foster
Foster	Denise	I am here to raise my voice for those who can not speak for themselves to STOP the US Navy's War Technology and War Game Expansion that is directed to destroy all Sea Life & Marine Mammals!! There is NO need to "test" ANYTHING with sonar! YOU ARE KILLING MINDS OF THE OCEANS!! I'm sure you wouldn't like it! WHY DO IT TO THEM?!! PLEASE STOP ALREADY! ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!!
Fox	Richard	Please mitigate and reduce the impact of sonar and explosives testing on dolphins and whales. These are intelligent creatures whom we, as the superior species on the planet, are charged to protect over the long haul. We must protect them! I recognize the need for military testing but the protection of the environment and sea life must be a priority too. We are all on this planet together. Do you want dolphins and whales to be here 500 or 1,000 years from now for example for our descendants to enjoy and interact with? I certainly do. So we must shepherd them carefully now.
Franco	Alicia	I live on the ocean, my work involves photographing and documenting any cetaceans I come in contact with off the Western Coast of Oahu. The idea that we are injuring the animals we learned Sonar from simply befuddles me. I've read the reports and done my research and am still opposed to this proposal.
Free	Cindy	We are saddened to hear that the Navy is considering conducting exercises involving the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. Do you feel that it is really necessary to conduct this testing that will affect such a volume of marine life? It would be a great pity to see so much of the conservation work the USA has undertaken towards its marine environment over the last number of years being undermined by these proposed exercises. These conservation initiatives deserve to be applauded and have made the USA one of the leaders in marine conservation. To conduct these exercises flies in the face of all the good work and progress that has been achieved to date. There is also the issue of sound channels in the oceans that can carry sounds over vast distances, so not only local populations may be affected but also populations in areas seemingly far removed from the testing activities. As these activities could potentially affect endangered

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		<p>species on both the high seas and possibly in the territorial waters of other nations we believe that any other nations that could potentially be affected should be fully consulted, and the findings of any such consultations made public, prior to any decision being made on whether these activities should progress to the next stage. We would ask you to give serious consideration to just how necessary these proposed exercises are and where the benefits of them lie versus the destruction of marine life that so many dedicated citizens have worked tirelessly to preserve and enhance for both current and future generations. We look forward to hearing from you with your views on the above, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us, yours,</p>
Freehill	Maureen	<p>This comment is about the Navy Sonar Warfare Testing program in the Pacific. There is ever increasing evidence and clear indication that simply turning off sonar tests when marine mammals are visually spotted is not sufficient to protect them from serious injury and death resulting from these tests. This testing is devastating to vast numbers of marine mammals. Knowing this, I can only implore those reviewing this practice to immediately STOP these tests. They are injuring and killing precious and defenseless marine mammals. I refer you to NRDC article documenting this "staggering" and severe harm here: http://www.nrdc.org/wildlife/marine/sonar.asp and here: http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/zsmith/harm_of_staggering_proportions.html The WASHINGTON POST stated that: (Associated Press) May 11, 2012 – "New Navy study says use of sonar, explosives may hurt more marine mammals than once thought "...HONOLULU-The U.S. Navy may hurt more dolphins and whales by using sonar and explosives in Hawaii and California under a more thorough analysis that reflects new research and covers naval activities in a wider area than previous studies..." "The Navy estimates its use of explosives and sonar may unintentionally cause more than 1,600 instances of hearing loss or other injury to marine mammals each year, according to a draft environmental impact statement that covers training and testing planned from 2014 to 2019. The Navy calculates the explosives could potentially kill more than 200 marine mammals a year" Please tell us how, with this brutally painful injury imminent and clearly KNOWN, the Navy can continue this destructive warfare testing? "Mass dolphin deaths in Peru caused by acoustic trauma" were announced by "...Dr. Carlos Yaipen Llanos of ORCA in Peru informed Hardy Jones of Blue Voice that acoustical trauma is the cause of the Mass Mortality Event (MME) that killed an estimated one thousand dolphins along the coast of northern Peru in March 2012...". Digital Journal News Report – "Mass Dolphin Deaths in Peru Caused by Acoustic Trauma" May 17, 2012 - Read more: http://www.digitaljournal.com/print/article/325075#ixzz1vnKmJkGL http://www.digitaljournal.com/print/article/325075 This is another reason to begin to limit sonar, laser, radar, and electromagnetic weapons testing in the Atlantic, Pacific, and the Gulf of Mexico. Some more documentation here about the connection between tests and MARINE MAMMAL STRANDINGS ASSOCIATED WITH U.S. NAVY SONAR ACTIVITIES April 2012: http://hstteis.com/Portals/0/hstteis/SupportingTechnicalDocs/Marine%20Mammal_Stranding_Report_v02.pdf Thank you for your attention and serious consideration of this comment & grave matter. May true honest intelligence & moral compassion guide your decisions in this matter.</p>
Freeland	Candace	<p>Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and authentically consider its message. And thank you for the in depth assessment the Navy has produced in its EIS report regarding the impact of sonar weapons testing on marine mammals and seabirds in the Pacific region. My father served in the Navy in the Korean war and I am grateful to those who serve in the Navy for any contributions they have made to make the world a better place. However, when it comes to the issue of underwater sonar testing which include underwater detonations, explosions and high frequency sonar blasts, I have to voice my opposition. Who will defend the defenseless sea creatures and eco systems of the ocean from these violent disruptions? As stated in the Navy assessment, many deaths of dolphins, whales, and other marine mammals will result from escalated sonar testing, as well as lung and gi tract damage and traumatic stress. This level of stress will affect mating and the robust propagation of these species. In your assessment, however, you did not calculate</p>

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		<p>the toll of human suffering. When large numbers of deaths and declining populations of these majestic marine mammals occur, consider the psychological suffering it will incur on people who love God's creatures. There is a highly evolved level of communication and empathy between humans and the dolphins and whales. If the tax dollars of millions of Americans continue to be used to fund weapons systems that aggressively and violently disrupt the eco system of the ocean, it could result in a domino effect of population decline and down the road, possible extinction, of these vulnerable populations of marine mammals and other sea creatures. If this occurs, all humanity will suffer a profound loss. To ponder the loss of these majestic marine mammals tears at the very fabric of how humans make sense of the meaning of life. If being alive as a human being on this planet means that we helplessly participate in the perpetuation of endless conflicts, ceaselessly manufacturing weapons of destruction to blow up underwater, overwater, in the air and everywhere we can manage to explode something, with the end result of polluting and destroying the very air, water, food and shelter that we depend on for life ...then why even be here at all? Is this how God intended for human beings to "steward" His precious creation? Just reading the Navy report on projected mortality rates, damage to the lungs and gi tracts and traumatic stress to dolphins, whales and monk seals, actually makes me physically ill. We live in Hawaii where the economy is driven almost exclusively by tourism. Can you imagine dying dolphins washing ashore on Waikiki beach witnessed by hundreds of shocked visitors? Can you imagine hundreds of live videos being beamed instantly around the world showing people the world over this tragedy? Can you imagine what may happen if people realize they have been paying the government 60% of their tax dollars over a lifetime of dutiful IRS contributions - to fund this insanity? It's not humane, it's not necessary, it's not right, it's not pono. It's a nightmare. The dolphins, whales, monk seals, turtles - they are a part of my family. You are using my money to kill my own family. That is an outrage. The US spends more money on "defense" than 60 major countries combined. We see that our government is building up a military presence in the Pacific. We see that the Navy is planning on escalating the sonar testing three fold. I am a Hawaii resident. I don't want the Navy to continue to detonate explosives in the ocean waters surrounding the Hawaiian islands. I don't need that to happen in order to feel safe, secure or protected. As a matter of fact, underwater military explosions and sonic blasts create the opposite feeling - that the ocean is no longer a safe place to fish and to swim, that the very balance of the oceanic realm is being violently disturbed and that makes me feel personally violated. I want the killing to stop, I want the destruction of the ocean to stop. I want this madness to end. No more detonations, explosions, drilling, mountaintop removal, poisoning and polluting. It must stop. If we have any interest at all in leaving behind a world worth living in for our children's children and beyond. We must shift our global attitude from "Every man for himself" to "We're all in this together". Again, in regard to the continuation and escalation of Navy sonar weapons testing in the Pacific ocean, I am appalled at how my tax dollars are being used. It implicates me and every other tax paying American in the destruction of the planet and the killing of defenseless marine mammals. Respectfully, Candace Freeland Kapaa, Kauai, HI 96746</p>
Freeman	Kate	<p>As a concerned voting citizen, I strongly wish to register my wishes that no, repeat NO, whales, dolphins or fish be injured, impacted or killed by any actions of the US Navy or other military groups. Thank you!!</p>
Freitas	Tatiana	<p>To whom it may concern, Almost everybody agrees that we need a robust and strong Navy to protect national security. And almost all of us agree that whales, dolphins, and porpoises deserve to live and to have a healthy ocean environment. We understand the need for protecting our country, but we can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures. We know that in the past, whales have stranded and died in the wake of major military sonar exercises, with bleeding from the ears and other tissue damage attributed to sonar. These have included incidents of beaked whales dying in the Canary Islands following sonar exercises, the panicked flight of orcas and porpoises off Washington State in 2003, and dozens of whales (including pregnant females) from several species who died in North Carolina in 2005. These tragedies can be avoided to a very significant</p>

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		degree. Pleaser consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. Please re-think your plans and incorporate additional protective measures. Thank you. Sincerely, Tatiana Freitas
French	Anita	You can't be serious about the sonar testing being a good thing?! Really??? DON'T DO IT!!!! Being a monster is not cool.
Fuchs	Mayra	No sonar in Hawaii or near Hawaii - this is a sanctuary and needs to be protected and RESPECTED - even by the Navy. Sonar kills!!!! and it kills the innocent, wahles, dolhins, turtles, fish, monk seals and the ocean - haven't you done enough damage to the oceans yet??? how come you ignore life that much???? STOP IT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
Furukawa	Susan	Please utilize methods to ensure national security without sacrificing the lives of so many marine creatures (some that are endangered) and without causing permanent damage and suffering to thousands of others. How about safety zones? Avoiding seasonal feeding areas and calving areas? Take time to research the areas before moving forward. "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated"- Gandhi
Futral	Deirdre	I understand that for safety & security purposes ship hulls need to be tested for strength. However, believe if we can send men to the moon & can have humans orbit our planet on a space station, we can find a way to test ships without causing harm to the ocean-life we've not yet exterminated. I'm from a NASA town & grew up in a NASA family so I know our government has the know-how. Perhaps funding could be diverted from the testing to find out why monkeys fling their poop. Don't laugh, this is listed as a current legitimate budget expense of our government. We can't keep killing off these amazing creatures in our
Gaalaas	Linda	Please consider modifying your training methods to avoid injuring/ killing marine mammals in the Calif and Hawaii waters.
Gallegos	Veronica	Stop the Naval exercises which would do great harm to marine life living in the waters where the U.S. Navy proposes to experiment. These exercises would causes permanent or temporary damage to animals' hearing and lung damage to the marine life. The marine life in the proposed area deserve to live undisturbed by human contamination. Much work has been done to conserve the species and endangered species, such as the right whale, would be affected. Why does the Navy ignore the fact that all life is reliant upon one other? We are many species of creatures that make up our earth. Being a good steward of this earth is our first responsibility. Harming marine life does not uphold this practice.
Garman	Lynn	I beg of you to please consider some other way of testing this equipment that will be harmful to delicate marine life that is under siege by so many other environmental hazards. Surely your scientists can find a method of testing that will not cause pain and death to our fellow creatures.
Garner	Lauren	Please consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed.
Gawboy	Stephanie	Hello U.S. Navy, I will comment on your plans to expand on the 5 - year Warfare range in the oceans surrounding the United States of America. I have read a tremendous amount of information on the subject, and I have attended a meeting with representatives from the Navy talking to the public at the Wharfinger building in Eureka, California. I met someone who saw the whale that traveled up the Klamath river that later died there. We know that the sonar testing is hurting the cetaceans in large numbers and this is unacceptable to me and many others. We know that a lot of the bombs that are tested and even ship cleaning procedures

Last Name	First Name	Comment
		<p>pour toxins into the ocean. Maybe some people think the ocean is big enough and can take it. But we know that there are now huge dead zones forming in the ocean. We eat fish from the ocean and they are becoming more toxic due to many things including pollution from the Navy. I know that even the oceans have a finite ability to take our abuse and keep the wildlife thriving. There are other ways to protect this nation besides more bomb and sonar testing . One is to actively developing peaceful, fair, and just relations with other nations. We need to be spending more money on communicating, and rearranging our priorities so we do not have such fearful "enemies". We are smart enough as a people to do this. We are aware that there are some corporations that make a lot of money selling weapons and when they are used by testing, more have to be made and sold. I am saying that the motive for polluting our oceans, damaging our wildlife, and threatening the health of our people may not be based on our protection, it may be based on greed. I do not fear these other nations, more than I fear the system that allows you to pollute and harm us so severely. So I am asking you to create a new policy, that will instead protect our oceans and in turn the health of the people of our nation. Like I said before, we need to make a concerted effort to make peace, that is the best defense. I understand that some people are not ready for peace and we still need a military that is well trained. I have faith that we can protect ourselves without escalating our use of weapons. The other point is that if we keep testing at this rate, there will be no nation left to protect. So you just need to come up with healthy alternatives to protecting this land, sea and nation. Give us a chance to restore the health of our surroundings. That would be the best defense. Thank you, Stephanie Gawboy P.O. Box 871 Redway, CA 95560</p>
Gawboy	Stephanie	<p>Hello U.S. Navy, I will comment on your plans to expand on the 5 - year Warfare range in the oceans surrounding the United States of America. I have read a tremendous amount of information on the subject, and I have attended a meeting with representatives from the Navy talking to the public at the Wharfinger building in Eureka, California. I met someone who saw the whale that traveled up the Klamath river that later died there. We know that the sonar testing is hurting the cetaceans in large numbers and this is unacceptable to me and many others. We know that a lot of the bombs that are tested and even ship cleaning procedures pour toxins into the ocean. Maybe some people think the ocean is big enough and can take it. But we know that there are now huge dead zones forming in the ocean. We eat fish from the ocean and they are becoming more toxic due to many things including pollution from the Navy. I know that even the oceans have a finite ability to take our abuse and keep the wildlife thriving. There are other ways to protect this nation besides more bomb and sonar testing . One is to actively developing peaceful, fair, and just relations with other nations. We need to be spending more money on communicating, and rearranging our priorities so we do not have such fearful "enemies". We are smart enough as a people to do this. We are aware that there are some corporations that make a lot of money selling weapons and when they are used by testing, more have to be made and sold. I am saying that the motive for polluting our oceans, damaging our wildlife, and threatening the health of our people may not be based on our protection, it may be based on greed. I do not fear these other nations, more than I fear the system that allows you to pollute and harm us so severely. So I am asking you to create a new policy, that will instead protect our oceans and in turn the health of the people of our nation. Like I said before, we need to make a concerted effort to make peace, that is the best defense. I understand that some people are not ready for peace and we still need a military that is well trained. I have faith that we can protect ourselves without escalating our use of weapons. The other point is that if we keep testing at this rate, there will be no nation left to protect. So you just need to come up with healthy alternatives to protecting this land, sea and nation. Give us a chance to restore the health of our surroundings. That would be the best defense. Thank you, Stephanie Gawboy P.O. Box 871 Redway, CA 95560</p>
George	Diana	<p>Please protect marine mammals from explosives and sonar. Please consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals.</p>
Georgi	William	<p>(1) Noticed one typo on page 365 of volume 2. The name of the port on Kauai is Nawiliwili, not Hawiliwili. (2) Other than that, the EIS is reasonably thorough, and alternative 2 represents a good balance of protecting our national security interests</p>

Last Name	First Name	Comment
		versus endangered species, etc. (3) In the past, I worked at PMRF for 16 years and saw major exercises delayed (once for 2 days!) because marine mammals (whales) were in the operations area. (4) The Navy tries to stay 1,000 yards away from marine mammals. If a skipper gets too close, it can end his/her career. On the other hand, whale watching vessels are allowed to approach to 100 yards of whales...and if they get closer, the crew may get bigger tips! The encouragement of whale watching is far more dangerous to the whales than the proposed Navy actions under the EIS!
Gherini	Sarah	Please don't do this. These creatures are part of California and America's population, and I cannot proudly say I'm an American and let this happen.
Ginsbach	Pat	How does a human mind get to the point where this type of deadly testing would even be considered?? You guys must be well on the way to the crazy house if you go through with killing all these innocent sea mammals. There are always other methods available to do this research.
Gitzel	Kimberly	Please, please, for the mercy of the living creatures who reside in the ocean STOP THE UNDERWATER SONAR/SOUND TESTING. The US military is without question, the strongest, most advanced military on our great blue planet. It is now time for our great military to make its future technical advances in humane ways. As a future resident of Hawaii, I speak out for the whales and dolphins who cannot be heard but who CAN HEAR YOU. They are suffering greatly from the effects of underwater sonar. Dolphins and whales use sonar not only to navigate, but to communicate with each other. Our sonar testing, much louder than their own voices, drowns out their own calls, destroys their hearing, and can lead to loss of life. Please, please be conscious of how sonar testing affects them and cease this practice. We can use our technical prowess to create lab environments to test our equipment. Thank you sincerely for your consideration.
Gobioff	Lynne	It is outrageous any action would be taken that would put whales and dolphins in harms way
Godin	Bethany	I am writing to voice my concern for the marine life so negatively affected by the sonar testing being done by the US Navy. I strongly object to this manner of testing. Every effort should be made to make sure that this practice is halted. The ocean life whose home is invaded and whose livelihood is jeopardized are creatures of the Earth like you and I. If anyone bombed the US, killing and maiming American people, and impairing our ability to obtain food, surely the US Navy would be sent forth to protect and aid the people. Marine lives depend on US to speak up for them... No whales will come from the ocean to wrong Navy testers in the way they have been wronged but that merely makes them vulnerable & defenseless - not expendable. Use those sonic testing apparatuses to locate your hearts, please!
Godin	Bethany	I hope that the concerns of many regarding this sonar testing find their way to listening ears, despite any troubles encountered while submitting this form...
Gold	Talia	Please, for the love of G-d, stop the underwater sonar-sound testing. It is a cruel practice that destroys the quality of life of our dolphins and whales, who have no voice and no choice to protest this assault on their lives. It destroys their hearing, which in turn makes it impossible for them to communicate with each other, something essential to their survival. I beg you to take this into consideration. Thank you, Talia Gold
Goldman	Julie	Stop any and all of this abuse to the animals the only thing your doing is wasting tax payers money that could be used to teach and help find the veterans jobs and schooling
Goldsmith	Samantha	Cetaceans have been described as "non human persons" by scientists...this is extremely distressing and disgusting for me. Please cease this program!
Goldwyn	Lori	I'm appalled to hear about the proposed testing because of the impact it will evidently have on the hearing and very lives of so many precious whales and dolphins. It's hard to believe that the extensive damage to these mammals is worth the benefits gained from the testing. PLEASE... do not proceed with this testing. Thank you very much. Lori Goldwyn
Gonzalez	Dolores	Stop the testing now! You are hurting and killing countless animals.
Goodwin	Kip	Of course, the marine ecosystem would be best served if the Navy cancelled this exercise. That decision makers conclude that there are overriding considerations is a topic for another venue: Is it possible to simultaneously prepare for war and

Last Name	First Name	Comment
		<p>prevent war? The Navy and NMFS by admission don't understand the current level of health of the eastern Pacific basin ecosystem and are guessing at the impacts of this exercise. For a scientifically correct and ethical study there must be research and data collection to establish a baseline against which future studies can be measured. The Navy needs to be more aggressive in publicizing the scoping sessions to promote community awareness and participation. An item on the back pages of one newspaper is insufficient when there are many media, government and civic organizations that can get the word out. The Navy plans only one scoping session on the west coast, in San Diego. They should occur in communities north through California and Oregon where impacts from the exercise may be felt. Because the proposed exercise is more intense in its use of sonar and explosives than anything before attempted, the Navy should instead maximize computer simulation practices to mitigate harm. The Navy should conduct minimal as possible exercises as far from marine habitat, especially habitat of endangered species, as is possible.</p>
Goslow-Zwicker	Annemarie	<p>Unless it is a time of war with imminent threat these tests should not be performed in areas known to be frequently passaged by whales and dolphins or within effective range of whales and dolphins. Please limit Navy sound testing to areas outside the known paths of migration, reproduction and feeding of whales and dolphins and other effected marine mammals. Please also require scanning for the presence of marine mammals within the disturbance zone prior to testing and delay testing until the marine mammals depart from the affected area. Unless the rights of these marine mammals are respected, I cannot condone Navy sound testing. Sincerely, Annemarie Goslow-Zwicker</p>
Govea	Rio	<p>Many marine mammal species are endangered because of human impacts upon their environment or hunting. Some whale populations which were in the past endangered are just beginning to return because of education and protection. We have no right to knowingly permanently injure these living creatures who never purposefully injure humans unless first provoked. The Navy has admitted that the sonar tests will cause harm to whales and dolphins ranging from discomfort to disorientation to permanent deafness which would interfere with navigation, self defense and finding food thereby seriously impairing their ability to survive. Increased beaching and deaths of marine mammals have certainly been linked to previous Navy sound testing. Unless it is a time of war with imminent threat these tests should not be performed in areas known to be frequently passaged by whales and dolphins or within effective range of whales and dolphins. Please limit Navy sound testing to areas outside the known paths of migration, reproduction and feeding of whales and dolphins and other effected marine mammals. Please also require scanning for the presence of marine mammals within the disturbance zone prior to testing and delay testing until the marine mammals depart from the affected area. Unless the rights of these marine mammals are respected, I cannot condone Navy sound testing. Most sincerely, Rio Govea</p>
Graham, DVM	Madeline	<p>Please do not kill living creatures in order to protect living creatures. Surely the intelligent human mind can come up with a better plan to perform your tests and not maim and kill the intelligent beings of the sea.</p>
Grant	Leslie	<p>How will destabilizing an ocean ecosystem by deafening or killing marine mammals contribute to our security? If we cause the collapse of our fisheries with the resultant loss of jobs and food sources, how are we safer? It's already well established that the fisheries off our coasts are strained and nearing depletion. This exercise will only hasten this demise. It's time to step back and really analyze how we defend ourselves and our coasts without harming the ocean ecosystem.</p>
Gray	Elizabeth	<p>I understand the need for protecting our country, but we can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures.</p>
Greenwood	Len	<p>As a concerned citizen, educator, ocean & environmental health instructor, I feel compelled to address your ongoing assault on our ocean's health and the well being of all sea life. I feel equally perplexed at your decision to double warfare training exercises for a 5 year period and your aggression toward our oceans. Just who or what are we at war with? Whales? Seals? Fish? Dumping countless tons of toxic chemicals into her waters, and killing whatever life might get in your way just does not humanly make any sense. Enough is enough. When will the military ever</p>

Last Name	First Name	Comment
		<p>figure that out? I deploy you to double down your trainings, take the exercises BACK to pre-2008 levels and protect our oceans, NOT blow the hell out of them. Our oceans, which support ALL life on our fragile planet, are under severe and relentless attack from over-fishing, to pollution, to carbon sequestration which turns our waters more acidic. Our inter-tidal zones are dying, our coral reefs disappearing, our large fisheries, already GONE. So does this vast emptiness just look like a playground to the Navy? An empty stadium for the global gladiators to flex their muscles, scream their insults and destroy life and peace in nature? We DO NOT need more toxins pumped into our air or waters by the Navy's desire to flex and dominate. At these times of severe budget cuts throughout education, health care and assistance for the elderly, I find your wanton doubling of exercises and its expense insulting and abhorring. Our economy is still attempting a recovery and at the time of your decision to double exercises, was at a state of collapse. Yet, you pushed on at the expense of life, of education and health and the well being of all. This hellbent attitude of destruction and vast waste of much needed financial resources must end. Why do we need this constant drive to KILL, to CONQUEST, to DEFEND? What enemy are you truthfully fighting? The whale, the dolphin, the salmon, the seal? OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE? Your actions on these matters leave me speechless and angry. Why can't we truly BE a country which leads by example, a country which values life, which values our oceans, our forests, our environment? "Taking" life from the ocean to study the effects of blowing them up is insane. Stop stop stop this madness! For the future of our children and their children and their children, leave the oceans alone, to heal, to replenish, to continue to bring health and well being to all life on Earth. I ask you to cut back your training exercises to pre-2008 levels, and to immediately stop polluting our waters with your toxic chemicals and your doubled fossil fuel emissions. Stop! If a private citizen were to act in the manner you act, that citizen would be locked up for years. Look in the mirror, truly ask yourself what good will be accomplished in having a strong Navy, a trained Navy if there are no oceans to sail, no planet to protect. There you go, how about defending and protecting the health of the planet and NOT the corporations which make their money off of WAR! Enough is enough. As you look in that mirror, ask yourself why you treat our Mother Earth and Mother Ocean with such contempt and uncontrollable harm and destruction. It makes NO SENSE. Leave HER alone, to heal or I fear, we shall ALL perish from your actions.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">For the Earth, Education & Peace Len Greenwood</p>
Griffith	Shena	<p>I am horrified at your disregard for lifeforms other than our own. Most, if not all, of the animals you will be affecting are on the endangered species list, and those lives are just as valuable (if not more so) than a human's. With such superior intelligence that we humans have been blessed with, one would think that the US Navy would be able to come up with a better plan--one which doesn't wipe out or handicap tens of thousands. The species that you would kill and endanger are crucial to the underwater ecosystems they live in, and without them, our world would be in chaos; it already is in chaos from the damage we've done. Please don't cause such harm for your own means. I have a deep and profound respect for the Navy that supports and protects my country. I also have an equally deep and profound respect for our planet--one that friends and enemies alike must share--and I truly hope that the US Navy keeps that in mind. The consequences of what you are planning to do are not worth the means that you would achieve. Find another way; one that doesn't harm the innocent.</p>
Groeber	Anke	<p>It is known that the use of sonar and explosives in naval maneuvers threatened the lives of marine mammals and fish. Since many species of marine mammals are threatened with extinction, I can not understand that use of sonar and explosives are required for these exercises. Don't inflict such damage to the habitat ocean for only a maneuver!</p>
Grosch	Judy	<p>Please remember that whatever decision you make to help the whales and the dolphins they are also for our cuntry because everything on this planet is interconnected. I f the decision is harmful for whales and dolphins it will also be harmful for all living in our country.</p>
Guglielmelli	Gina	<p>The ocean is very important to this planet... The lives of the dolphins whales and all other marine life are dependent on humans... We must be the voices for our</p>

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		oceans.... This is not acceptable and should not be allowed. I stand firmly against the testing of sonar in OUR OCEAN.
Gyedu	Daria	USA STOP YOUR PLANS.MARINES MAMMALS NEED PROTECTION! DARIA GYEDU,POLAND
Hale	Elizabeth	Please consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. Thank you for your time and consideration.
Hall	Elizabeth	I respectfully request that you take all prudent measures to protect the lives and health of marine mammals during sonar and explosive training and testing. Thank for your consideration of my request. Elizabeth Hall
Hall	Kathy	You cannot possibly allow the atrocities of deafening and killing the beautiful dolphins and whales in these waters!!!! They are living creatures who feel pain, emotion, and fear. Why would anyone think that it is OK to kill a living being for the purposes of Navy exercises or for any other reason. As a citizen of this world I demand that the deafening and killings of Dolphins and whales be absolutely prohibited. Humanity must be much more evolved than to stoop to these barbaric and dim witted measures for their own futile purpose. Kathleen F. Hall PhD Candidate The University of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada
Hallowell	Alia	Protect whales and dolphins. Stop sonar testing in the Pacific Ocean.
Hambley	S	The military uses nearly any excuse to continue doing whatever they are doing...overthrowing the marine mammal act should not be something the Navy needs to do...wild marine mammals do not need to be included in the military necessary kill ratios...they have enough humans killing them as it is...
Hammonds	Julie	The US Navy has released its initial Draft Environmental Impact Statements for the next 5-year round of permits it will seek from the National Marine Fisheries Service for its at-sea training activities. I would ask the NMFS to place an extremely high priority on the protection of marine mammals as it reviews the permit applications. I note with alarm that the numbers of marine animals expected to be affected have skyrocketed. The Navy's estimate of the number of animals whose behavior could be affected has jumped from 770,000 to 14 million, including 2 million cases of temporary hearing impairment, in addition to 2,000 animals experiencing permanent hearing loss. And, the Navy estimates that explosives training and testing could kill 1,000 animals. This is simply not an acceptable level of take. Marine mammals are extremely valuable creatures and we don't know enough about them to risk causing them this level of harm. This action, without substantial mitigation, is outside ethical boundaries. There is a solution that would balance national security needs with the need for environmental protection. So far, the Navy is refusing to set aside areas of high marine mammal density where sonar should not be used. NMFS should take every possible step to require the Navy to change its position on this. Sensitive breeding and foraging habitats and biologically unique areas within the training area must be protected from use for sonar and underwater explosives training. Safeguarding specific areas of sensitive habitat is the best way to lessen harm to whales and dolphins from sonar and other activities. I understand the need to balance national defense with protection for the environment. The best way to do this is not to use the technology in the same areas where whale and dolphin numbers are high or during breeding seasons. The Navy must do more to identify and set aside the most environmentally sensitive portions of its training areas and not conduct training and testing in such areas.
Hansen	Mark	Visual detection can miss anywhere from 25–95 percent of the marine mammals in an area. It's particularly unreliable in rough seas or in bad weather. We learn more every day about where whales and other mammals are most likely to be found. We need a healthy ecosystem in the ocean. Would the Navy be allowed to drop bombs on animal sanctuaries on land? Enough destruction of the Ocean and it's inhabitants. Protect marine life.
Harden	Cory	Please evaluate this incident: State cites Navy for hazardous waste violations Tuesday, July 3, 2012 6:33 PM ESTUpdated: Jul 03, 2012 5:08 PM

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		<p>&lt;em class="wnDate"&gt;Tuesday, July 3, 2012 11:08 PM EST&lt;/em&gt; The Hawaii State Department of Health (DOH) has issued a notice of violation with a penalty fine totaling \$80,000 against the U.S. Navy Public Works Center Makalapa Compound for alleged violations of the state's hazardous waste and used oil rules. Makalapa Compound operates as a base yard for maintenance activities for Pearl Harbor Navy Region Hawai'i. Makalapa faces four counts of failure to make a hazardous waste determination and two counts of storage of hazardous waste without a permit. During a routine inspection on August 31, 2011, DOH found Makalapa failed to make a hazardous waste determination for corrosive wastes generated during coil cleaning of refrigerant equipment and for wastes generated from the use of solvents containing methyl ethyl ketone and perchloroethylene. These wastes were disposed of in the trash instead of handling them as hazardous wastes. Makalapa also stored hazardous waste paints and fuels in open containers, thereby violating the requirements for a permit for storage of hazardous waste. The Navy has 20 days to contest its notice of violation and request a hearing. Navy responds to State Dept. of Health The Navy received a Notice of Violation from the State Department of Health (SDOH) in June 2012 for non compliance activities discovered during an inspection at Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Hawaii in August 2011. The Navy took immediate corrective action, provided refresher training, and increased internal reviews to ensure compliance. An unannounced follow-up visit by SDOH in February 2012 revealed no negative comments or report. The Navy is committed to protecting and preserving the environment. The Navy has formally requested a hearing to contest the Notice of Violation and Order and penalty. During an unannounced inspection in August 2011, one (1) open hazardous waste drum in a hazardous waste accumulation site and three (3) open paint-related cans were identified as being improperly managed under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. The Navy addressed the concerns immediately and implemented procedures to ensure these actions are not repeated. Internal periodic reviews by subject matter experts indicate that the facility remains in compliance. "The Navy in Hawaii takes its environmental stewardship very seriously and is constantly working towards being in compliance with all hazardous waste laws," said Aaron Poentis, Navy Region Hawaii Environmental Program Director. "In this case, SDOH inspectors found concerns at one of our local commands in August 2011 which we immediately corrected. A follow up SDOH visit occurred in February 2012 which did not generate any comment or report. I am confident that after our requested hearing for the Notice of Violation and Order much of the allegations will be resolved to the satisfaction of the SDOH." The Navy plans to discuss SDOH's allegation and assessment. The Navy received the inspection report in November 2011, and a summary of our efforts and corrective actions was immediately forwarded to DOH in a January 2012 correspondence. As always the Navy is committed to operating in a manner protective of the environment. The Navy has a long history of demonstrated environmental compliance. National defense and environmental protection are, and must be, compatible goals. [http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/story/18946134/state-cites-navy-for-hazardous-waste-violations]</p>
Harden	Cory	<p>Please evaluate this incident: During a routine inspection on August 31, 2011, DOH found Makalapa failed to make a hazardous waste determination for corrosive wastes generated during coil cleaning of refrigerant equipment and for wastes generated from the use of solvents containing methyl ethyl ketone and perchloroethylene. [http://hawaiiindependent.net/story/departement-of-health-fines-navy-80000-for-hazardous-waste-used-oil-violatio] Hawaii fines Navy \$80K for hazardous waste Tuesday Jul 3, 2012 18:52:43 EDT PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii — Hawaii's health department has cited the Navy for hazardous waste and used oil violations. The state Department of Health said Tuesday it issued a violation notice with an \$80,000 fine against the U.S. Navy Public Works Center Makalapa Compound in Pearl Harbor. Health officials say the base yard compound violated the state's hazardous waste and used oil rules by disposing of corrosive waste and solvents in the trash instead of handling them as hazardous waste. Another violation involves storing hazardous waste paints and fuels in open containers. The violations were discovered during a route inspection in August 2011. The Navy has</p>

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		<p>20 days to contest the notice of violation and request a hearing. Navy Region Hawaii did not immediately comment. [Navy Times, http://www.navytimes.com/news/2012/07/ap-hawaii-fines-navy-hazardous-waste-070312/] July 3, 11:35 PM EDT Hawaii fines Navy \$80K for hazardous waste PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii (AP) -- Hawaii's health department has cited the U.S. Navy for hazardous waste and used oil violations. The state Department of Health said Tuesday it issued a violation notice with an \$80,000 fine against the U.S. Navy Public Works Center Makalapa Compound in Pearl Harbor. Health officials say the base yard compound violated the state's hazardous waste and used oil rules by disposing of corrosive waste and solvents in the trash instead of handling them as hazardous waste. Another violation involves storing hazardous waste paints and fuels in open containers. The violations were discovered during a route inspection in August 2011. Navy Region Hawaii spokeswoman Agnes Tauyan says the Navy has taken corrective action, provided refresher training, and increased internal reviews to ensure compliance. The Navy has formally requested a hearing to contest the violation notice. [Stars and Stripes, http://ap.stripes.com/dynamic/stories/H/HI_NAVY_VIOLATIONS_HAZARDOUS_WASTE_HIOL-?SITE=DCSAS&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2012-07-03-23-35-05]</p>
Harden	Cory	<p>Please evaluate this information: Navy to resume sinking old ships in US waters Published: 7/02 11:26 pm Updated: 7/02 11:30 pm PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii (AP) -- The U.S. Navy is resuming its practice of using old warships for target practice and sinking them in U.S. coastal waters after a nearly two-year moratorium spurred by environmental and cost concerns. Later this month, three inactive vessels - Kilauea, Niagara Falls and Concord - will be sent to a watery grave off Hawaii by torpedoes, bombs and other ordnance during the Rim of the Pacific naval exercises, or RIMPAC. The military quietly lifted the moratorium on Sinkex, short for sinking exercise, last year after a review of the requirements, costs, benefits and environmental impacts of the program, the Navy said in a statement to The Associated Press. It will be the first time since 2010 the Navy has used target practice to dispose of an old ship. Previous targets have ranged from small vessels to aircraft carriers such as the USS America, which was more than three football fields long. Conservation groups argue that the ghost ships should instead be recycled at a ship-breaking facility. Concerns about the long-lasting effects of toxic pollutants onboard the ships spurred a lawsuit by those groups to force the Environmental Protection Agency to better catalog and regulate Sinkex. The case, filed in U.S. District Court in San Francisco, is ongoing. The groups said they did not plan to seek an injunction to stop the Navy from restarting the exercises. "We are appealing to the Navy to continue their moratorium at least until our case is heard," said Colby Self of the environmental group Basel Action Network, which joined the Sierra Club in suing the EPA. "After the vessels hit the sea-bottom, it will be a little too late to redress damages to our precious marine resources." The Navy says Sinkex offers valuable live-fire training for times of war and provides clean vessels for at-sea, live-fire exercises. The ships can be targeted from the air, ocean's surface or underwater, with the results aiding the acquisition, planning and design of future vessel classes and systems, the Navy said. For decades, the Navy destroyed the vessels with little or no oversight. Then in 1999, the EPA ordered the Navy to better document toxic waste left on the doomed ships while removing as much of the material as possible. In return, the EPA exempted the military from federal pollution laws that prohibit any such dumping in the ocean. The Navy is still in charge of estimating the amount of pollutants onboard after the ships are prepared for sinking. In addition, the Navy must file an annual report with EPA estimating the amount of PCBs, or polychlorinated biphenyls, carried by the vessels. High levels of the chemical are believed to increase the risk of certain cancers in humans. It was banned by the U.S. in 1979 in part because it is long-lasting and accumulates throughout the food chain. Vice Admiral Gerald Beaman, commander of the combined task force running the exercises, said Monday that each ship will be stripped of PCBs and other contaminants such as asbestos, as required by the Navy's agreement with EPA. "There are severe restrictions that are placed on any hulk of that nature," Beaman said during a news conference at Pearl</p>

Last Name	First Name	Comment
		Harbor, flanked by commanders from participating countries. The Navy must also conduct the exercises at least 50 nautical miles from shore and in water at least 6,000 feet deep. Beaman said decisions about sinking the ships versus recycling them are made outside the scope of the exercises. A previous AP review of records from the past 12 years found the Navy got rid of most of its old ships over that time through target practice. Records show the Navy sunk 109 peeling, rusty U.S. warships off the coasts of California, Hawaii, Florida and other states during that period. Navy documents show some of the ships it sunk contained an estimated 500 pounds of PCBs. During the same time, 64 ships were recycled at one of six approved domestic ship-breaking facilities. RIMPAC, which lasts for five weeks, features training exercises for thousands of military personnel from 22 nations. [KHON news]
Harmon	Linda	Someone who works at PMRF on Kauai island told me recently that it's all about money. Jobs and money to the military industrial complex. These exercises are not making us safer. We already far surpass our enemies in military expertise. We win over our enemies by being a good shepard of the planet. We rejuvenate the ocean so it can give life providing nourishment to our present and future generations. As it is the ocean is dying from being over fished and used as a dumping grounds for toxins which includes those created by the military shooting off missiles and creating ear drum deafening sonar. one of the largest dump sites for plastic is between here and San Diego, larger than the state of Texas. Such sites, called gyres are found in oceans around the globe. The toxins from broken down plastics are found in fish and humans that eat those fish. It is no wonder the oceans are dying. What we need is to stop the killing of marine life so it can recuperate from the present harm we inflict daily. 1. strict fishing quota enforcement because the ocean is over fished. 2. we need an aggressive full on assault of plastic dumps in the ocean. 3. stop military exercises that harm the life of the ocean.
Harris	Leimomi	It's time to stop testing. Please do so.
Harris	Marika	Please, please, for the mercy of the living creatures who reside in the ocean STOP THE UNDERWATER SONAR/SOUND TESTING. The US military is without question, the strongest, most advanced military on our great blue planet. It is now time for our great military to make its future technical advances in humane ways. Please stop!
Harrison-Hinds	Sharlene	We know that in the past, whales have stranded and died in the wake of major military sonar exercises, with bleeding from the ears and other tissue damage attributed to sonar. These have included incidents of beaked whales dying in the Canary Islands following sonar exercises, the panicked flight of orcas and porpoises off Washington State in 2003, and dozens of whales (including pregnant females) from several species who died in North Carolina in 2005. These tragedies can be avoided to a very significant degree. The HSUS is joining other environmental and animal welfare groups to ask the Navy to consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. We are calling on the U.S. Navy to re-think its plans and to incorporate additional protective measures. This is not a dress rehearsal, ladies and gentlemen. We only have one chance to get this right so let's do so. Let's do the right thing and think of all the beautiful and wonderful creatures and do no harm, especially in the name of humanity.
Harrold	Kathryn	DO NOT DO THIS! you have no right to inflict pain and injury upon innocent, unsuspecting animals. Be a compassionate navy, PLEASE!!!
Harte	Mary	Continuing to conduct tests that will seriously damage huge numbers of marine animals will further damage important marine ecosystems that are already being stressed through other human activities, including overexploitation and climate change. We derive a significant amount of food and revenues from our marine environment. Damaging it further damages us and weakens our national security.

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		Given this, the Navy should seriously consider terminating such tests.
Hasler	Gloria	Please do not do sonic testing in the waters that will harm ocean animals.
Haug	Megan	NO SONAR USE IN OUR OCEANS! YOUR AGENDA IS NOT AS IMPORTANT AS THE LIFE YOU ARE HARMING AND ENDING. FIND ANOTHER WAY TO ACCOMPLISH WHAT YOU ARE TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH.
Hawthorne	Jennifer	I recently learned that the Navy has projected that they will deafen 1600 cetaceans and kill 200 marine mammals EACH YEAR IN A 7-YEAR PROGRAM in the name of training for our defense. I am writing to add my voice of outrage against the horror of this plan. With all the creativity humans possess, and the resources of our military, I urge you to find other ways to plan for our defense. This plan is unconscionable. Thank you.
Hawthorne	Jennifer	I beg you not to test the Navy's underwater system at the expense of deafening thousands of dolphins and whales. They will lose their own ability to navigate. Please say no to this life-damaging activity! These creatures are too important to the balance of life on earth.
Haydon	Lanell	We know that sonar blasts kill ocean life. I am writing to state my strong opposition to the sonar tests and exercises along the coast. These exercises will be devastating to whales, dolphins, and other animals. Please reconsider your plans. Thank you.
Hays	Bri	Please refrain from endangering thousands of marine mammals on the East Coast and West Coast and implement protective measures as part of the Navy's training program. These marine mammals are an incredibly important part of our ecosystem, and there are many ways in which the Navy can mitigate the impact of its training programs. Please increase your efforts to protect whales, porpoises, and dolphins from harm during naval training and testing. There are several steps the Navy can take to reduce the impact on these animals, including avoiding calving areas and migratory pathways, creating a safety zone around testing areas, and monitoring the training/testing areas for marine mammal activity. Please do the right thing and take important but simple steps to protect our seas and sea life.
Hazard	Michael	Please suspend this operation now!
Hazarika	Hemant	This should not be done...there are a lot of intelligent people from the govt. and armed forces that are involved in these operations...I believe they should opt. for some other alternative..and no living being should be harmed from these operations or experiments..
Heard	Cassandra	National security takes many forms. If we ruin our oceans at the rate we're going, we'll all be dead anyway. Please widen the definition of "security" This is my respectful request, Cassandra Heard
Heizer	Ann	There MUST be a way that the Navy can do tests WITHOUT killing all this marine life!! In THIS DAY AND AGE we should be peaceful instead of trying to kill everything around us!! PLEASE PLEASE consider this!!!!
Henkin	David	Earthjustice submits these comments on behalf of the Center for Biological Diversity in response to the U.S. Navy's request for public input on the draft environmental impact statement/overseas environmental impact statement ("DEIS") for Hawaii-Southern California Training and Testing Activities, 77 Fed. Reg. 27,743 (May 11, 2012). These comments necessarily will be brief because, frankly, the Navy has failed to provide the public with adequate time to wade through the over 1600 pages of the DEIS's two volumes. Allowing a mere fifteen days beyond the 45-day bare minimum the National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA") requires for public review of even abbreviated draft EIS's is far short of what is required to give the public a meaningful opportunity for input. See 40 C.F.R. § 1506.10(c); California v. Block, 690 F.2d 753, 770 (9th Cir. 1982) ("NEPA's public comment procedures are at the heart of the NEPA review process"). If the Navy truly wished to hear from the people of Hawai'i regarding their concerns about the potential environmental impacts associated with this project, it would have given them more time. We are aware that other parties are submitting comments on the deficiencies of the Navy's analysis of proposed training activity impacts and proposed mitigations, and we share their concerns. Given the limited time to review the DEIS, we will focus our comments on highlighting a fatal flaw that can only be cured by issuance of a revised DEIS (with, hopefully, improved analysis): the Navy's total failure to evaluate a true "no action"

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		<p>alternative. NEPA commands all federal agencies, including the Navy, to prepare an environmental impact statement (“EIS”) for all “major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.” 42 U.S.C. § 4332(2)(C). “The primary purpose of an [EIS] is to serve as an action-forcing device to insure that the policies and goals defined in [NEPA] are infused into the ongoing programs and actions of the Federal Government.” 40 C.F.R. § 1502.1. An EIS must “provide full and fair discussion of significant environmental impacts and [must] inform decisionmakers and the public of the reasonable alternatives which would avoid or minimize adverse impacts or enhance the quality of the human environment.” <i>Id.</i> An EIS must discuss, among other things: the environmental impact of the proposed federal action, any adverse and unavoidable environmental effects, any alternatives to the proposed action, and any irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources involved in the proposed action. 42 U.S.C. § 4332(2)(C); see also <i>id.</i> § 4332(2)(E). The alternatives section “is the heart of the environmental impact statement.” 40 C.F.R. § 1502.14. In this section, the Navy must “[r]igorously explore and objectively evaluate all reasonable alternatives,” devoting “substantial treatment to each alternative considered in detail ... so that reviewers may evaluate their comparative merits.” <i>Id.</i> § 1502.14(a), (b). NEPA specifically mandates that every EIS “[i]nclude the alternative of no action.” <i>Id.</i> § 1502.14(d). The core purpose of the alternatives analysis is to “sharply defin[e] the issues and provid[e] a clear basis for choice among options by the decisionmaker and the public.” <i>Id.</i> § 1502.14. NEPA’s goal is to ensure “that federal agencies infuse in project planning a thorough consideration of environmental values.” <i>Conner v. Burford</i>, 836 F.2d 1521, 1532 (9th Cir. 1988). “The consideration of alternatives requirement furthers that goal by guaranteeing that agency decisionmakers [have] before [them] and take [] into proper account all possible approaches to a particular project (including total abandonment of the project) which would alter the environmental impact and the cost-benefit balance.” <i>Bob Marshall Alliance v. Hodel</i>, 852 F.2d 1223, 1228 (9th Cir. 1988) (citation omitted). The Ninth Circuit has emphasized that “[i]nformed and meaningful consideration of alternatives-including the no action alternative-is ... an integral part of the statutory scheme.” <i>Id.</i> (emphasis added). In the DEIS, the Navy purports to consider a “no action” alternative, but fails to do so. The DEIS asserts that the “no action” alternative may be “thought of in terms of continuing with the present course of action until that action is changed.” DEIS at 2-63. Accordingly, rather than analyze a “no action” alternative that involves ceasing training and testing activities, the DEIS evaluates only the continuation of “currently conducted training and testing activities (baseline activities) and force structure (personnel, weapons and assets) requirements as defined by existing Navy environmental planning documents.” <i>Id.</i></p>
Henkin	David	<p>The flaw in the Navy’s logic is that current training and testing activities occur pursuant to Marine Mammal Protection Act (“MMPA”) incidental take authorizations, issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service (“NMFS”), and those authorizations will expire in early 2014. <i>Id.</i> at 1-3. Thus, to conduct training and testing beyond early 2014, the Navy needs new authorizations from NMFS. The Navy knows this; the DEIS expressly states that it is “needed to support the Navy’s request to obtain an incidental take authorization from NMFS” for the next phase of operations and that “[t]he Navy will use this new analysis to support incidental take authorizations under the MMPA.” <i>Id.</i>; see also <i>id.</i> at 1-12 (“this document will serve as NMFS’s NEPA documentation for the rule-making process under the MMPA”). Presumably, NMFS also intends to rely on this round of NEPA analysis to support any incidental take statements issued pursuant to the Endangered Species Act. In situations involving “federal decisions on proposals for projects,” such as whether to issue a new incidental take authorization for proposed Navy training and testing, the Council on Environmental Quality has stated that “no action” means “the proposed activity would not take place.” 46 Fed. Reg. 18,026, 18,027 (Mar. 23, 1981). Thus, to support NMFS’s permitting decision, the Navy was obliged, but failed, to evaluate a true “no action” alternative involving denial of the request for incidental take authorization. See, e.g., <i>Western Watersheds Project v. Rosenkrance</i>, 2011 WL 39651, at *10 (D. Idaho Jan. 5, 2011) (“Most troubling is that BLM did not consider a real no action alternative. ...</p>

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		If BLM truly did take no action, then the old grazing permits would expire, no new permits would issue, and no range improvements would occur. No action would be no action. This is a reasonable, and obvious, alternative to issuing new grazing permits.”); Ocean Mammal Institute v. Gates, 546 F. Supp. 2d 960, 977 (D. Haw. 2008) (“The Court ... fails to see how a ‘no action’ alternative that involves the continuation of individual training exercises using MFA sonar subject to the Navy’s discretionary environmental review falls within NEPA’s explicit alternatives analysis requirement”). Having failed to evaluate the required “no action” alternative, the Navy may not proceed with finalizing the DEIS. See ‘Ilio’ulaokalani Coalition v. Rumsfeld, 464 F.3d 1083, 1101 (9th Cir. 2006) (failure to consider reasonable alternative “renders the Army’s EISs inadequate”). Rather, the Navy must issue a revised DEIS that analyzes a true “no action” alternative (i.e., no incidental take authorizations), providing the requisite “benchmark” to permit the public and Navy “decisionmakers to compare the magnitude of environmental effects of the action alternatives.” 46 Fed. Reg. at 18,027. The Navy then must circulate the revised DEIS for another round of public review and comment. See 40 C.F.R. § 1502.9. Thank you for your consideration of these comments. Please feel free to contact me via email (dhenkin@earthjustice.org) or telephone (808-599-2436, ext. 6614) if you would like to discuss our concerns.
Hennessy	Cecilia	As a citizen of the United States of America, I do not understand how the world's most powerful navy justifies harming other species in order to improve military techniques. Marine mammals, birds, fish, turtles, and habitat could be harmed with sounds, explosions, detritus, and electromagnetic impulses that are being implemented to supposedly train our navy personnel for future combat. This is complete nonsense. No other military in the world is as advanced or as well-funded as ours, and the ones that we would possibly need to prepare for war against do not have navies of any substantial power. We could easily beat them with conventional weapons, that we already know how they work and have an ample supply of. Radiation levels in some places in the southwest are still elevated due to atomic tests in the 1940's and 1950's; the long-standing effects of these tests are rarely, if ever, accurately estimated beforehand. Do we really need to cause irreparable harm to creatures that have no part in human warfare? Including those that are already suffering from dwindling populations? When is enough enough? Let's see this for what it truly is; a job-advancement ladder for weapons engineers, using "training" as a scrim, and meted on the backs of taxpayers and wildlife. How many whales would be deafened, disoriented, and killed by this operation? And for what purpose do we ask them to make that sacrifice? The costs outweigh the benefits, if only we would take all costs into consideration.
Hepworth	Kirsi	No live explosives and sonar exercises, please! They kill thousands of precious animals that have right to live.
Hernandez	Cristina	it's not right that the navy would do something like this KNOWING what harm it could do to the environment. Your disrupting the balance which in the end the results will be tragic and that will be on you who are trying to go through with this. Do the research and think how this can harm not just you, but everyone. Please reconsider. Sincerely, Cristina Hernandez
Herrera	Desiree	I understand the need for protecting our country, but we can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures.
Herron	Vicki	Please don't do it. Find a laboratory way to test your sonar weapons. Leave the oceans and their inhabitants to peace. They, like civilians, should have rights.
Hess	Steven	The injury or morality of any marine mammals due to the actions of the Navy are completely unacceptable. There is no legitimate reason that national defense should ever cause harm to any wildlife. The Navy should be implementing the protection and recovery of the wildlife they have harmed over the past two centuries, not further endangering these creatures.
Hidaka	Chisa	I understand the need for protecting our country, but please find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures. I know that in the past, whales have stranded and died in the wake of major military sonar exercises, with bleeding from the ears and other tissue damage attributed to sonar. These have included incidents of beaked whales dying in the Canary Islands following sonar exercises,

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		<p>the panicked flight of orcas and porpoises off Washington State in 2003, and dozens of whales (including pregnant females) from several species who died in North Carolina in 2005. These tragedies can be avoided to a very significant degree. I support the HSUS and other environmental and animal welfare groups in asking the Navy to consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed.</p>
Hill	Gwendolyn	<p>The Navy's mid-frequency sonar has been implicated in mass strandings of marine mammals in, among other places, the Bahamas, Greece, the Canary Islands, and Spain. In 2004, during war games near Hawai'i, the Navy's sonar was implicated in a mass beaching of up to 200 melon-headed whales in Hanalei Bay. In 2003, the USS Shoup, operating in Washington's Haro Strait, exposed a group of endangered Southern Resident killer whales to mid-frequency sonar, causing the animals to stop feeding and attempt to flee the sound. "In 2003, NMFS learned firsthand the harmful impacts of Navy sonar in Washington waters when active sonar blasts distressed members of J pod, one of our resident pods of endangered orcas," said Kyle Loring, Staff Attorney for Friends of the San Juans. "Given this history, it is particularly distressing that NMFS approved the Navy's use of deafening noises in areas where whales and dolphins use their acute hearing to feed, navigate, and raise their young, even in designated sanctuaries and marine reserves." In 1996 twelve Cuvier's beaked whales beached themselves alive along the coast of Greece while NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation) was testing an active sonar with combined low and mid-range frequency transducers, according to a paper published in the journal Nature in 1998. The author established for the first time the link between atypical mass strandings of whales and the use of military sonar by concluding that although pure coincidence cannot be excluded there was better than a 99.3% likelihood that sonar testing caused that stranding.[16][17] He noted that the whales were spread along 38.2 kilometres of coast and were separated by a mean distance of 3.5 km (sd=2.8, n=11). This spread in time and location was atypical, as usually whales mass strand at the same place and at the same time. The Navy's mitigation plan for sonar use relies primarily on visual detection of whales or other marine mammals by so-called "watch-standers" with binoculars on the decks of ships. If mammals are seen in the vicinity of an exercise, the Navy is to cease sonar use. "Visual detection can miss anywhere from 25-95% of the marine mammals in an area," said Heather Trim, Director of Policy for People For Puget Sound. "It's particularly unreliable in rough seas or in bad weather. We learn more every day about where whales and other mammals are most likely to be found—we want NMFS to put that knowledge to use to ensure that the Navy's training avoids those areas when marine mammals are most likely there." Some of the mid-frequency sonar systems the Navy employs are capable of generating sounds in excess of 235 decibels. A normal human conversation takes place at 60-70 decibels; a loud rock concert is about 115 decibels; permanent hearing damage for people can occur from short-term exposure to 140 decibels. The decibel scale is a logarithmic scale, and each ten-decibel rise along the scale corresponds to a ten-fold increase in power: a sound measuring 130 decibels is ten times more intense than a 120 decibel sound, a sound of 140 decibels is 100 times more intense, and a sound of 150 decibels is 1,000 times more intense. Judge David A. Ezra found that the Navy was violating federal law, after Earthjustice sued the Navy last May for violating the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA). Judge Ezra said, "there is little disagreement that MFA [mid-frequency active] sonar can cause injury, death, and behavioral alteration to these animals." The judge noted that the Navy's harm threshold -- 173 decibels (dB) -- contradicts the best available science and "cast into serious doubt the Navy's assertion that, despite over 60,000 potential exposures to MFA sonar, marine mammals will not be jeopardized." Further, he ruled that the Navy's reliance on a noise level of 173 decibels, below</p>

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		which it claims harm to animals from its sonar will not occur,was "arbitrary and capricious," an acknowledgment that even sonar noise at much lower intensity levels can harm and kill marine mammals."Whales have stranded and died at predicted noise levels of around 150 decibels – 100 times less intense than the threshold set by the Navy," said AWI President Cathy Liss. "Such a level is without scientific justification." The court determined that the Navy had failed to explore reasonable alternatives to conducting its exercises, failed to notify and involve the public as required by law. The Navy must, take greater precautions to protect marine life and use the latest scientific information to identify these biological "hot spots" and establish protection for marine mammals and other species." Examples of mitigation measures include not operating: at nighttime,at specific areas of the ocean that are considered sensitive,when dolphins are bow-ridings,low ramp-up of intensity of signal to give whales a warning, air cover to search for mammals,using fish-finders to look for whales in the area
Hines	Craig	The Navy is PROPOSING A REAL INCREASE TO THEIR ACTIVITES, ESPECIALLY WAR GAMES AND SONAR. SONAR TORTURES AND KILLS whales and dolphins and people apparently or at least assists them in killing people (under the name of so called protecting people) and apparently helps them refine killing people (war games)! I am a kind, loving human whose intentions are to honor life. By dedicating myself to seeing the sacredness of all life, thereby reveres all of life, I walk through the day lifting the consciousness of many, many people simply by being. As the EIS becomes reverent the tendency to allow harm to anything including its self as an entity, diminishes and the overall consciousness raises on this planet and peace reigns supreme. I ask to please consider what the navy is asking. we are either in a fear based solution attracting more fear/war or a love based solution attracting more loving/kind solutions. The Navy is stating its going to kill. I am living in opposition to what the navy proposes. Please allow my influence to count in not allowing the navy a permit for any of the proposed activities. Aloha and peace to whomever this my reach, -Craig Hines
Hitch	Wendy	Please do not go through with the Navy sound testing. It will have major repercussions to the state of our ocean and the balance of life. It will KILL many creatures, make many whales and dolphins go DEAF!! This would be a HUGE MISTAKE! Please don't do it!!
Hofacre	Debra	As a visitor to Kauai for many years, I am opposed to any testing that harms the dolphins and whales. Please find another way and spare these beautiful creatures.
Hoffmann	Tania	I heard, that you are planning Sonar experiments in and around Hawaii. Please do not do so! Sonar tortures and kills whales and dolphins (as they are loosing their orientation) - and there are so many whales and dolphins living around Hawaii! Please remain sensitive to nature and it's animals. Hawaii is such a paradise... Thank you very much!
Holt	Justin	We are saddened to hear that the Navy is considering conducting exercises involving the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. Do you feel that it is really necessary to conduct this testing that will affect such a volume of marine life? It would be a great pity to see so much of the conservation work the USA has undertaken towards its marine environment over the last number of years being undermined by these proposed exercises. These conservation initiatives deserve to be applauded and have made the USA one of the leaders in marine conservation. To conduct these exercises flies in the face of all the good work and progress that has been achieved to date. There is also the issue of sound channels in the oceans that can carry sounds over vast distances, so not only local populations may be affected but also populations in areas seemingly far removed from the testing activities. As these activities could potentially affect endangered species on both the high seas and possibly in the territorial waters of other nations we believe that any other nations that could potentially be affected should be fully consulted, and the findings of any such consultations made public, prior to any decision being made on whether these activities should progress to the next stage. We would ask you to give serious consideration to just how necessary these proposed exercises are and where the benefits of them lie versus the destruction of marine life that so many dedicated citizens have worked tirelessly to preserve and enhance for both current and future generations. We look forward to hearing from you with your views on the above, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to

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		contact us, Thanks, Justin Holt
Holtz	Perdita	Please consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts of training and testing to marine mammals. Please consider avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. Thank you.
Horzely	Jo	Is there not a better solution? Have you calculated the potential disturbances based on the mammals not being able to hear!!!! These are sonar-based animals? Please don't.
Houser	Jennifer	There is much we don't know about whales but we do know they are highly intelligent, social, highly evolved mammals. We know their brains have as much or more surface area than ours which suggests their intelligence may parallel ours though it may be a very different kind of intelligence. Many marine mammal species are endangered because of human impacts upon their environment or hunting. Some whale populations which were in the past endangered are just beginning to return because of education and protection. We have no right to knowingly permanently injure these living creatures who never purposefully injure humans unless first provoked. The Navy has admitted that the sonar tests will cause harm to whales and dolphins ranging from discomfort to disorientation to permanent deafness which would interfere with navigation, self defense and finding food thereby seriously impairing their ability to survive. Increased beaching and deaths of marine mammals have certainly been linked to previous Navy sound testing. Unless it is a time of war with imminent threat these tests should not be performed in areas known to be frequently passaged by whales and dolphins or within effective range of whales and dolphins. Please limit Navy sound testing to areas outside the known paths of migration, reproduction and feeding of whales and dolphins and other effected marine mammals. Please also require scanning for the presence of marine mammals within the disturbance zone prior to testing and delay testing until the marine mammals depart from the affected area. Unless the rights of these marine mammals are respected, I cannot condone Navy sound testing Jennifer Houser
Howell	Kim	This is ridiculous! Test in the dead sea, a deep lake or anywhere else but our oceans!!!!
Huart	Henriëtte	Please spend your money on Something worthwhile like cleaning up the oceans and preservation of endangered spcies and preventing illegal fishing
Hubbard	Roberta	This is something that the people should be able to vote on. My vote is no for this testing. Why is it that too much power is granted to those who want to kill or who are responsible for so many deaths in the animal kingdom and sea world? There is already too much "not caring" anymore about natural life in exchange for easy solutions that involve death and murder. WE NEED TO CARE MORE TO PROTECT LIFE; ALL LIFE HERE ON THIS PLANET, and it is very serious. PLEASE RECONSIDER THESE HORRIBLE TESTS THAT ARE NOT ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY AS THEY CLAIM THEM TO BE. Seek other solutions and options, and let the American people vote on it too.
Hunt	Traci	We know that in the past, whales have stranded and died in the wake of major military sonar exercises, with bleeding from the ears and other tissue damage attributed to sonar. These have included incidents of beaked whales dying in the Canary Islands following sonar exercises, the panicked flight of orcas and porpoises off Washington State in 2003, and dozens of whales (including pregnant females) from several species who died in North Carolina in 2005. These tragedies can be avoided to a very significant degree. Please no sonar exercises, killing innocent marine mammals!! sincerely, Traci Hunt
Huntemer	Angela	Very briefly, I would like to state my total opposition to the Navy's proposed actions off the coasts of California and Hawaii. These waters are home to numerous species of cetaceans. Cetaceans are by nature very sensitive to sonic and other vibrations. Manoeuvres involving noise and other vibrations could injure or kill them. This is a well known fact. Not only might these prosposed actions be detrimental to cetaceans but theier disruptive effects on other types of marine life

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		<p>have not been adequately studied. Indeed comprehensive studies on the cetacean populations have not even been carried out yet. however, all evidence points to their sensitivity. PLEASE do not go ahead with these manoeuvres! Thank you for your time and attention. Angela Huntmer.</p>
Hurd	Dr. John	<p>I'm dismayed to read: The Washington Post (Associated Press) May 11, 2012 – Revealed today that a “New Navy study says use of sonar, explosives may hurt more marine mammals than once thought”[25]. “...HONOLULU-The U.S. Navy may hurt more dolphins and whales by using sonar and explosives in Hawaii and California under a more thorough analysis that reflects new research and covers naval activities in a wider area than previous studies...” and... On May 17, 2012, news reports that “Mass dolphin deaths in Peru caused by acoustic trauma” were announced by “...Dr. Carlos Yaipen Llanos of ORCA in Peru informed Hardy Jones of Blue Voice that acoustical trauma is the cause of the Mass Mortality Event (MME) that killed an estimated one thousand dolphins along the coast of northern Peru in March 2012...” [28]. This is another reason to begin to limit sonar, laser, radar, and electromagnetic weapons testing in the Atlantic, Pacific, and the Gulf of Mexico. You guys are destroying that which you are charged to defend. There will be a burn-out cinder before you're through with no life forms still extant except Dick Cheney breathing through a filtration system in a bunker in Wyoming. STOP THE SONAR!! Oh, and while you're at it please put IN WRITING that you will no longer use DU munitions in practice or ever!</p>
Hurley	Briana	<p>I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for your time, Briana</p>
Hurt	Sonia	<p>My comment concerns the proposed Navy training exercises off the coast of California and Hawaii - some of the most incredible and rich marine environments in the world. I am a live-aboard, world cruiser. I just returned by sailboat from Hawaii where I visited the whales breeding grounds. The Humpback whales are an endangered species. In the past, the global humpback whale population size was about 750,000 to 2 million animals while the current global population is only about 30 to 40 thousand. With about 66% of the North Pacific population wintering in Hawaii each year, up to 10,000 humpback whales are expected to come to Hawaii this winter. I understand the need for protecting our country, but I strongly oppose destroying our marine environment to do it. We must find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures as would occur under the Navy's training exercises planned for the California coast and Hawaii. Consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals: including avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding</p>

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		<p>areas; creating a larger “safety zone” around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. We know that in the past, whales have stranded and died in the wake of major military sonar exercises, with bleeding from the ears and other tissue damage attributed to sonar. These have included incidents of beaked whales dying in the Canary Islands following sonar exercises, the panicked flight of orcas and porpoises off Washington State in 2003, and dozens of whales (including pregnant females) from several species who died in North Carolina in 2005. These tragedies can be avoided to a very significant degree. This kind of devastation to the marine environment will have great costs beyond just the loss of marine mammals. There will be a significant loss of revenue from tourism and fishing as well as a great ecological cost. It just takes planning and modifying your training plans to avoid this. These marine animals are already struggling for their existence. Don't add this assault to their plight.</p>
Huvar	Cheryl	<p>Please develop and use training methods that do not harm or kill marine life. Thanks.</p>
Hyman	Matt	<p>I hope the US Navy will take steps to reduce the impact that sonar has on marine life.</p>
Igel	Bettina	<p>I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Sincerely Bettina Igel</p>
Ingram	Barbara	<p>There is much we don't know about whales but we do know they are highly intelligent, social, highly evolved mammals. We know their brains have as much or more surface area than ours which suggests their intelligence may parallel ours though it may be a very different kind of intelligence. Many marine mammal species are endangered because of human impacts upon their environment or hunting. Some whale populations which were in the past endangered are just beginning to return because of education and protection. We have no right to knowingly permanently injure these living creatures who never purposefully injure humans unless first provoked. The Navy has admitted that the sonar tests will cause harm to whales and dolphins ranging from discomfort to disorientation to permanent deafness which would interfere with navigation, self defense and finding food thereby seriously impairing their ability to survive. Increased beaching and deaths of marine mammals have certainly been linked to previous Navy sound testing. Unless it is a time of war with imminent threat these tests should not be performed in areas known to be frequently passaged by whales and dolphins or within effective range of whales and dolphins. Please limit Navy sound testing to</p>

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		areas outside the known paths of migration, reproduction and feeding of whales and dolphins and other effected marine mammals. Please also require scanning for the presence of marine mammals within the disturbance zone prior to testing and delay testing until the marine mammals depart from the affected area. Unless the rights of these marine mammals are respected, I cannot condone Navy sound testing. I see these animals swimming in the ocean every day as I drive sown my hilland their rights need to be respected, Most sincerely, Barbara Ingram
Islas	Jennifer	I do not agree or support this effort. It is not protecting and maintaining our oceans mammals. This testing is causing harm, and I do not see any use or good coming from it.
Ivascyn	Catherine	Please rethink the US Navy plans to conduct training exercises all along the US East Coast and in the rich marine environment off the California and Hawaii coasts. If these training sites are used, please ensure that the Navy protects marine mammals from explosives and sonar. especially in calving grounds and migratory corridors, The Navy should create large "safety zones" around the exercises so that marine mammals are not harmed. This would allow training to go forward and minimize the liklehood that whatles, dolphins and porpoises would be harmed or killed. thank you for your help with this matter.
Jackman	Jenny	I respectfully ask you, the United States Navy, to rethink your training exercises. There MUST be a way that you can safeguard our Nation and safeguard those animals that have the right to live in these waters. We depend on them for a balanced world and ecosystem. I grieve to think of the pain and suffering these beautiful, amazing, intelligent creatures will endure due to your training exercises. PLEASE revise your plans, and take into greater consideration the importance and worth of these creatures, and the responsibility we have as humans to make sure our actions don't cause undue, unnecessary, and uncaring harm to those we share the earth with. I have faith in your capabilities to make a different, more compassionate, and more sensible plan. Thank you.
James	Jenni	This training program is both devastating and unnecessary. The projected mortality rates are staggering. The number of animals left deafened will slowly starve. The impacts of this kind of testing are well documented in numerous studies. These impacts are far ranging and are damaging and lethal to ocean life -- from fisheries to marine mammals to all kinds of flora and fauna in the ocean. The only responsible action is to not use this lethal technology.
Janton	Emilie	ALOHA...I am a long distance swimmer on the Na Pali Coast of Kauai. The date of June 11,2012 I was swimming from Miloli'i to Polihale when I heard thunder under water....what was that....my kayak escort man heard the thunder too , he thought it was real thunder over by the island of Ni'ihau. I was concerned. Later that same day, back at Miloli'i beach a group of us heard the "thunder" again and again. Then we saw he big grey ship over in the water west of Polihali. The sound of just that kind of booming was very disturbing . I was wondering why the ocean here in a marine life sanctuary would be subject to this kind of "drills". I am concerned that the tests with sonar will effect all of us who are in the sea, swimmers, divers, all the marine life . When the tests were done by the Navy off the Kona Coast several years ago I was in the ocean swimming. One of my fellow swimmers was damaged by the sounds in the sea coming from the Navy vessel. To this day she has nerve damage as a result of being in the water too close to where the sonar tests were being done.I wish to swim with confidence that I will not be damaged by sounds that are being tested in the sea. I am also concerned for all marine life especially in designated Marine life sanctuary areas.Mahalo.
Jesus	Tania	I just learned at the Rio+20 that the ocean is more polluted than the lands.Because we can not see what is really happening,so the marine life is suffering,with fish nets and so on,which causes the trapping of the poor animals,causing the death and suffering of the fishes.
Johnson	Cayetana	Please, no more killing of the sea with these experiments.
Johnson	Colleen	Navy Training, Please reconsider the testing mission of the live explosives and high-intensity sonars. The animals in the ocean are far more important. Please. This is life that will be lost. Suffering that will be caused... Please.... Someone has to take a stand and save the animals. They are all apart of the bigger picture. We are all interconnected. As we destroy species after species, we are destroying ourselves... We may not see the impact in this life, but it does exist. Thank you,

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		Colleen Johnson Sebastian, FL
Johnson	Dody	Yes, Please stop the Sonar Sea Testing, for this is not good for our Sea Creatures ... Put yourself in their place ... would you want to live in an area where testing is done where you live, eat, sleep??? Gratitude for what we have received as gifts in many forms on this earth brings more benefits to mankind when we carry this Attitude/Mindset. Please Find Healthier Alternatives. Thank You, Sincerely, Dody Johnson
Johnson	Heidi	Almost everybody agrees that we need a robust and strong Navy to protect national security. And almost all of us agree that whales, dolphins, and porpoises deserve to live and to have a healthy ocean environment. But a recent proposal from the federal government tries to make Americans pick between these options, and it's a false choice. The U.S. Navy is proposing to conduct training exercises all along the U.S. East Coast and in the rich marine environment off the coast of California and Hawaii. These exercises would involve the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. According to its own Environmental Impact Statements, the Navy estimates that the planned exercises would kill up to 2,000 marine mammals, including a large number of animals from endangered species, such as right whales. Thousands of others would suffer permanent lung damage. An additional 16,000 would be permanently deafened and 5 million would be temporarily deafened by the exercises. We understand the need for protecting our country, but we can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures. Please protect marine mammals from explosives and sonar along the East Coast and California/Hawaii. We know that in the past, whales have stranded and died in the wake of major military sonar exercises, with bleeding from the ears and other tissue damage attributed to sonar. These have included incidents of beaked whales dying in the Canary Islands following sonar exercises, the panicked flight of orcas and porpoises off Washington State in 2003, and dozens of whales (including pregnant females) from several species who died in North Carolina in 2005. These tragedies can be avoided to a very significant degree.
Johnson	Jan	Please don't use sonar and explosives that will harm marine wildlife.
Johnson	Kit	I just want to express my concern for the dolphins, whales and other marine life affect by your under-water testing. There must be a better way than to harm these beautiful, innocent beings. Please consider alternatives and/or whether this testing is absolutely necessary! Thank-you!!
Jones	Katie	Why is it ok for this gov'ment to do whatever they want, when they want. This is not money well spend.
Jones	Teryn	Please consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed.
Jose	Cherilyn	I know Navy sonar testing is necessary to protect Americans, but please limit testing around known cetacean migratory paths (geographically and seasonally). Whale watching boats, fishermen (both recreational and commercial) and scientists are a good resource for that information. Please use passive sonar to check for any cetaceans in the immediate area before testing and the animals will thank you for saving their lives! Thank you for your time, Cherilyn Jose
Joseph	Paul	I'm writing to ask that you please stop the sonar that is killing mammals in your test areas. We went from 155,000 incidences to the potential for millions of times per year? Unacceptable. I live on the West coast and want future generations to be able to love the oceans, whales, and dolphins, that I have been able to enjoy.
Jubran	Jodi	Please do not deafen and kill marine life with your military practices. Why is it something you are not concerned with? Find a way to practice without hurting anything. We know you can do it with computer simulation - so why hurt our marine life? WHY???????????
K	Ken	Don't do these activities if they harm living animals. You've got enough ways to

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		kill and maim people, these tests are not important enough to kill innocent animals over. How about we do tests on you and your family? Would that be ok?
Kaempfer	Tobias	.
		Dear Sirs/Madams, I am strongly in opposition to any/all proposed use of the Hawaiian Archipelago as a training/test site for the US Navy et al as it is evidently detrimental to the critical habitat of these Hawaiian Islands & its' people. I am a lineal heir descendant/3rd party beneficiary of the Cleveland-Liliuokalani Assignment/Agreement who has never willingly/knowingly conveyed and/or ever been compensated for my assets (inherent vested undivided interest to what was under the lawful management of the Crown/Hawaiian Kingdom Government prior to January 17, 1893) as a matter of fact or pursuant to the law of Nations (Geneva IV & V). The Apology Resolution (Public Law 130-150) & Act 359 of the Hawaii State Legislature acknowledges the historical injustices committed upon the Crown). The Hawaiian Kingdom Government & its' People never conveyed nor have we been justly compensated for what was under the lawful management of Liliuokalani (Queen of these Hawaiian Islands). It has been reported today that the US Navy has knowingly dumped hazardous waste into Pearl Harbor (Oahu) & are being fined \$80,000.00. The ridiculous fine shall not compensate or financially cover restoration/reparation of the critical habitat affected by the US Navy's illegal dumping of hazardous materials into Pearl Harbor!!! Furthermore, no consultation has ever been made with me & my ohana directly possessing an undivided interest to the entire Hawaiian Archipelago as pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of which compliance is mandatory!!! Whereas, I demand that all directly/indirectly concerned cease & desist immediately. Your failure to cease & desist would give cause of action for me & my ohana to file grievances with the international court of justice for cultural genocide & civil rights violations pursuant to applicable sections of Title 18; 28; & 42 of the United States Code etc!!! Please govern yourselves accordingly with due diligence!!! Aloha nui & Mahalo!!!
Kanaka'ole	Simbralynn	Simbralynn Leiolani Kanaka'ole
Kane	Frank	Please do not continue with your sound testing in the Pacific
		Almost everybody agrees that we need a robust and strong Navy to protect national security. And almost all of us agree that whales, dolphins, and porpoises deserve to live and to have a healthy ocean environment. But a recent proposal from the federal government tries to make Americans pick between these options, and it's a false choice. The U.S. Navy is proposing to conduct training exercises all along the U.S. East Coast and in the rich marine environment off the coast of California and Hawaii. These exercises would involve the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. According to its own Environmental Impact Statements, the Navy estimates that the planned exercises would kill up to 2,000 marine mammals, including a large number of animals from endangered species, such as right whales. Thousands of others would suffer permanent lung damage. An additional 16,000 would be permanently deafened and 5 million would be temporarily deafened by the exercises. We understand the need for protecting our country, but we can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, porpoises, and many other marine creatures. We are asking the Navy today to protect marine mammals from explosives and sonar along the East Coast, and California and Hawaii. We know that in the past, whales have stranded and died in the wake of major military sonar exercises, with bleeding from the ears and other tissue damage attributed to sonar. These have included incidents of beaked whales dying in the Canary Islands following sonar exercises, the panicked flight of orcas and porpoises off Washington State in 2003, and dozens of whales (including pregnant females) from several species who died in North Carolina in 2005. These tragedies can be avoided to a very significant degree. The HSUS is joining other environmental and animal welfare groups to ask the Navy to consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood
Kastel	Diane	

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		that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. We are calling on the U.S. Navy to re-think its plans and to incorporate additional protective measures. PLEASE CARE ABOUT THE MARINE LIFE! HAVE MERCY! BE RESPONSIBLE!
Katir	Diksha	I respect the thought and care you are using in your efforts to make our country safe and also for your efforts to reduce any adverse effects to wildlife. However, I ask that you please find a method, a time, or a location that will result in few to zero fatalities or injuries while you strive to achieve your goals. All marine life is in need of our protection, but especially sea turtles, whales and beaked dolphins. Please do not seek to use methods that have adverse effects on marine life.
Katir	Usha	First, I praise you for inviting comments. Please help us to understand why using potentially lethal testing methods is necessary. I hereby state my objection to any sonar testing that would damage whales, dolphins or any other sea creature sensitive to such testing. Please DO NOT DO THIS!!! Is there another way? Is there another location? Please help the public to understand what you are doing! Again, thank you very much for allowing the public to comment. I just wish I had known sooner. You have my phone number, please call if you have any information that will help me to understand. I appreciate you and pray that everyone's needs can be met. Very best regards, Usha Katir
Kaur	Simran	To whom it may concern, Sometimes as an individual one feels very impotent to stop an exercise of this magnitude. All I want to remind the people behind this is that we are NOT alone on Earth. The continuance of life on Earth requires balance and respect to all those we share this planet with. In the name of progress we ignore the collateral damage we cause but we don't realize that the Earth has a pulse too and it has reminded us, through Tsunamis and Earthquakes and disasters of horrible magnitudes, that payback is tough. So lets respect non-humans on Earth and not inflict such damage on them. Best, Simran
Keeble	Chad	I'd appreciate it if you didn't test your sonar and explosives in proximity to defenseless marine life. C'mon, with all the pollution and overfishing those guys have a hard enough time getting by as it is don't you think? Do we have to be the planets biggest a-hole neighbor every time?
Keefauver	Liz	Please put the safety of the whales & dolphins first and keep your testing off the shores of Hawaii & California.
Keller	Marcia	This is too high a price to pay. You know how the animals will be damaged. The damages will be in effect for many years in some cases. Spend the money to go somewhere less harmful if this "testing" must be done. Frankly, you people are not dumb. Why can't you figure out a way to test your merchandise without the harm? This is too high a price to pay.
Kemp	Sue	Please do not do this!! Stop the testing...NOW!
Kendrick	Janice	Please do not endanger the hearing or lives of whales and dolphins. Isn't there another way?
Kenzie	Monica	I am OUTRAGED that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could KILL and HARM marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine

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		mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Please think of these beautiful and precious creatures. Thank you.
Kershner	Camille	as vast as the oceans may seem to us landdwellers, for many creatures, it is their only home. please consider the following steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals: avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed.
Ketcherside	Sharon	Almost everybody agrees that we need a robust and strong Navy to protect national security. And almost all of us agree that whales, dolphins, and porpoises deserve to live and to have a healthy ocean environment. But a recent proposal from the federal government tries to make Americans pick between these options, and it's a false choice. The U.S. Navy is proposing to conduct training exercises all along the U.S. East Coast and in the rich marine environment off the coast of California and Hawaii. These exercises would involve the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. According to its own Environmental Impact Statements, the Navy estimates that the planned exercises would kill up to 2,000 marine mammals, including a large number of animals from endangered species, such as right whales. Thousands of others would suffer permanent lung damage. An additional 16,000 would be permanently deafened and 5 million would be temporarily deafened by the exercises. We understand the need for protecting our country, but we can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures.
Khomyakov	Igor	I am saddened to hear that the Navy is considering conducting exercises involving the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. Do you feel that it is really necessary to conduct this testing that will affect such a volume of marine life? It would be a great pity to see so much of the conservation work the USA has undertaken towards its marine environment over the last number of years being undermined by these proposed exercises. These conservation initiatives deserve to be applauded and have made the USA one of the leaders in marine conservation. To conduct these exercises flies in the face of all the good work and progress that has been achieved to date. There is also the issue of sound channels in the oceans that can carry sounds over vast distances, so not only local populations may be affected but also populations in areas seemingly far removed from the testing activities. As these activities could potentially affect endangered species on both the high seas and possibly in the territorial waters of other nations we believe that any other nations that could potentially be affected should be fully consulted, and the findings of any such consultations made public, prior to any decision being made on whether these activities should progress to the next stage. We would ask you to give serious consideration to just how necessary these proposed exercises are and where the benefits of them lie versus the destruction of marine life that so many dedicated citizens have worked tirelessly to preserve and enhance for both current and future generations. I look forward to hearing from you with your views on the above, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.
Kieckhefer	Tom	I am shocked and angry that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5 million instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800

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		<p>deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that a cetacean with a permanent hearing loss is a dead animal as whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate and live. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must take steps to significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.</p>
Kingsley	Michele	<p>I'm concerned about the harm potentially caused to marine mammals by your project. Surely it would be unthinkable for someone to come to your home and deafen your family members. Why then is it acceptable to do it to another species? Because they don't talk? Because they don't vote or have any influence? Are any species other than humans at risk from other "projects"? We are not being good custodians if we think we are so far above everything else that lives here that we can't be compassionate and use restraint when we exert our "supremacy" over other life forms. These creatures were here long before humans but we think nothing of harming them to advance ourselves. They need their hearing to eat, mate, communicate...all the things we do without a second thought. What if those things were taken from us through no fault of our own but by a, supposedly, more advanced society? We have no more right to harm another than they have to harm us. I know I sound like a bleeding heart hippie or something. I may be but I'm trying to give a voice to those we can't understand. Shouldn't we side with compassion and respect instead of arrogance? Thank you for your time. Sincerely, Michele Kingsley</p>
Kirch	Dawn	<p>Don't kill & or deafen innocent animals for testing, please find a better way.</p>
Kislak	Phil	<p>As a taxpayer and supporter of the U.S. military, I implore you to please NOT destroy or injure in any way any marine animals with naval (or other) exercises. It is an abomination in the eyes of God. You MUST figure out a way to exercise military hardware and forces WITHOUT significantly damaging ANY of God's creatures. I am generally in favor of national defense exercises, and I understand collateral damage during war, but killing and injuring simply for exercises is a sin of the highest magnitude.</p>
Kitch	Molly	<p>Please do not threaten the lives of whales and dolphins on East Coast, California, Hawaii by conducting experiments using explosives and sonar. This is unacceptable and unnecessary. Please take into consideration and develop another plan.</p>
Kivlen	John	<p>Whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate and live. Please stop the useless killing of 1,800 whales and dolphins and the deafening of 15,900 more by ceasing the operation of the Navy's underwater sound system in the Hawaiian Islands, the California and Atlantic Coasts, and the Gulf of Mexico. The use of high-frequency underwater sound testing should be better managed by working with Environmental groups. The Navy should plan to test during a safer time period, or if necessary stop the testing completely if it can't be done without harming thousands of whales & dolphins.</p>
Klick	A	<p>The proposed plan is indefensible from the point of view of putting at risk many thousands of marine mammals, who are considered by leading scientists to be sentient and self-aware. A similar proposal that involved the planned death of 2000 primates, many of endangered species, along with irreversible damage to tens of thousands of others would never even be considered. If indeed these exercises are important to our future security, it is imperative that measures be taken to minimize the impact on marine mammals. These measures could include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the</p>

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		exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed.
Knable-Crook	Stacie	I realize your work/testing is critical. But so is the survival of these wondrous creatures... please, please pursue alternative solutions to actions that will inflict such pain and devastation. Thank you.
Knight	Theresa	Hi, I am opposed to this testing based on the environmental impact on marine wildlife such as whales and dolphins. The Navy should be able to find ways to operate without harming the environment!!!! Theresa Knight
Kocsis	Keith	I am commenting to ask the Navy to consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. I am calling on the U.S. Navy to re-think its plans and to incorporate additional protective measures.
Kocsis	Linda	I am commenting to ask the Navy to consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. I am calling on the U.S. Navy to re-think its plans and to incorporate additional protective measures.
Kocsis	Linda	I am commenting to ask the Navy to consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. I am calling on the U.S. Navy to re-think its plans and to incorporate additional protective measures.
Kohn	Lorraine	Please protect our seas and precious sealife from military proliferation. We need to live in harmony with all species. These practices would deafen and kill sea mammals and the longterm effects on the oceans are really unknown. Especially important to protect migrating whales and our beloved dolphins. There is no need for such a large area. Please, protect our seas!
Kolons	Ferol	Enough is enough. It's been proven that sonar is deadly to marine mammals. It's there home, not ours. Get real and stop this unessacary torture of these innocent marine mammals.
Koopmans	Ana	plz do not do this its to cruel we need Animals on this world
Korhonen	Tracy	We are saddened to hear that the Navy is considering conducting exercises involving the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. Do you feel that it is really necessary to conduct this testing that will affect such a volume of marine life? It would be a great pity to see so much of the conservation work the USA has undertaken towards its marine environment over the last number of years being undermined by these proposed exercises. These conservation initiatives deserve to be applauded and have made the USA one of the leaders in marine conservation. To conduct these exercises flies in the face of all the good work and progress that has been achieved to date. There is also the issue of sound channels in the oceans that can carry sounds over vast distances, so not only local populations may be affected but also populations in areas seemingly far removed from the testing activities. As these activities could potentially affect endangered species on both the high seas and possibly in the territorial waters of other nations we believe that any other nations that could potentially be affected should be fully consulted, and the findings of any such consultations made public, prior to any

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		decision being made on whether these activities should progress to the next stage. We would ask you to give serious consideration to just how necessary these proposed exercises are and where the benefits of them lie versus the destruction of marine life that so many dedicated citizens have worked tirelessly to preserve and enhance for both current and future generations. We look forward to hearing from you with your views on the above, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us, yours,
Kozin	Debbie	As important as your mission is it is equally as important that we protect innocent and peaceful creatures. It is our responsibility as stewards of this planet to not them cause harm.
Krinsky	Santosh	Marine mammals live in the ocean. They do not have a choice on their location of residence. They rely on their sense of hearing to survive in their native environment. Sonar interferes with their ability to live. Every technology invented by humans has an impact on the world. Some of these impacts turn out to be severely negative consequences that were unintended but very real. When that occurs, it is incumbent on mankind to change its implementation of those technologies to mitigate the harm done to other beings or the environment. We now understand the destructive impact of sonar use in areas of high marine mammal activity, particularly in the areas off of Southern California and Hawaii. We should develop and use alternative technology in these areas at the very least, but also in other sensitive areas to ensure that other species have the right to live their lives in a safe, peaceful and positive manner without the kind of unnatural interference provided by our deployment of the sonar technology in their homes and feeding and breeding grounds.
Kronsnoble	Jeanne	I am outraged that the Navy is planning an operation which will harm dolphins and whales not to mention other creatures in the ocean. Please do not do this!!! It is just wrong.
Kujanson	Roxanne	Please reconsider your testing where dolphins and whales are put in danger of losing their hearing and lives. I am so appreciative of our freedom and soldiers. And so proud. But this is nothing to be proud of. Please do not do this.
Lafferty	Nikki	Please consider protecting marine mammals from sonar exercises and explosives in order to reduce the harmful impacts to these innocent creatures. As a patriotic American, I support the US Navy but without consideration and respect and for these majestic beings, we are engaging in what seems like an outdated and cruel practice. Certainly, as a nation, we are better than that.
Landsberg	Marisa	I am writing to ask the Navy to please implement all protective measures while using sonar and explosives in areas where marine mammals live. We know the harmful effects sonar and explosives have on marine mammals and we need to make sure we protect them in the process. Thank you, Marisa Landsberg
Lane	April	Please do not conduct training exercise along the US East Coast or off the coasts of California and Hawaii. Your own environmental studies indicate that a large number of marine mammals including some endangered species will be impacted negatively, even killed. With the technology that our nation possesses, we can certainly find more humane and ethically/environmentally responsible ways to test live explosives and high-intensity sonar. I urge the U.S. Navy to listen to the majority of the public and use and observe protective measures in your testing excercises-all creatures on this earth have a right to a peaceful existence. April Lane Whitefish,MT
Lane	Kerry	STOP UNDERWATER SOUND TESTING!!!
Lang	Jaclyn	I urge and request the US Navy to adopt safeguards during sonar training. The upcoming testing, please protect Whales and Dolphins. I know there must be ways to keep our country safe WITHOUT torturing non human life. Thank you.
Lauer	Dawn	I am urging you to consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals when conducting training exercises. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. Many animal

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		welfare organizations, including The Humane Society of the United States, are happy to work together to come to the best, most humane solution for all. Please explore all options before sacrificing the precious species that call our oceans home. Thank you in advance for your compassion.
Leach	Zach	Don't do it! Lives are at stake, not human, just as meaningful.
Leach	Zach	Please don't do it! We have done enough to destroy, then try and save sea life!
Lee	Andrew	For me, part of being an American is knowing that our actions are what make this country great. The Navy has admitted that the sonar tests will cause harm to whales and dolphins ranging from discomfort to disorientation to permanent deafness which would interfere with navigation, self defense and finding food thereby seriously impairing their ability to survive. Increased beaching and deaths of marine mammals have certainly been linked to previous Navy sound testing. Unless it is a time of war with imminent threat these tests should not be performed in areas known to be frequently passaged by whales and dolphins or within effective range of whales and dolphins. Please limit Navy sound testing to areas outside the known paths of migration, reproduction and feeding of whales and dolphins and other effected marine mammals. Please also require scanning for the presence of marine mammals within the disturbance zone prior to testing and delay testing until the marine mammals depart from the affected area. Thank you, Andrew Lee
Lee	Cherry	Please protect animals during training exercises.
Lee	Michael	Humpback Whale Breaching Photo: Thomas R. Kieckhefer I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
Lee	Ria	To Whom It May Concern, We just returned from a vacation to Texel, a small island in north Holland in the North Sea. Walking along the beach one evening we found a dead, beached harbor porpoise. The entire time we stayed on the island, we observed construction in the water near the beach. There is no way to know if this had anything to do with the porpoise's death, but it was clear that it significantly affected the environment these beautiful animals live in. It is disturbing to know that in our home state of California, our own government is considering activities that will risk the health and lives of marine mammals, such as whales and porpoises. Our son's second grade teacher took her class to Point Reyes, CA in the spring to show them the migrating whales. The class counted a number of whales together and returned home with beautiful images and stories in their minds. These are the very whales that would be affected by the Navy's tests. I urge you to please consider alternatives to the planned testing, that would allow these animals to continue living in our waters unharmed. With much appreciation,

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		Dr. Ria Lee
Legere	Laura	To the Navy, Please stop murdering the sentient beings of the oceans. Stating you are doing it for our defense makes no sense and only proves how insane or rather unsane your department is. Murdering divine beings protects no one, it only endangers the planet even further. Stop this horrid practice now! Have you ever heard of karma (cause and effect)? Saying you are just following orders is not an excuse and does not protect you from your cause and effect.
Leland	Fred	Considering the state of the world's oceans this exercise is irresponsible if not completely moronic. And why can't these exercises be conducted in simulators or with as little negative impact as possible? Monstrous.
Leo	Dawn	This is truly outrageous! Please, I am asking the Navy to consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. We must value and preserve our oceans and the marine mammals that inhabit the ocean, in addition to protecting our national security. There must be a balance. Please avoid the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; create a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and use aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. Thank you for the consideration.
Leonard	Alexander	I urge finding in favor of the No Action alternative. Multiple past studies and environmental assessments have found that current levels of Navy training and testing activities do have detrimental effects on marine resources' including on protected and endangered species. These include some with permissible takes of zero. Any increase in training and testing levels' or increase in use of active sonar would result in greater impact than current' and would be contrary to National environmental laws.
Lerandeau	Michelle	We will always have the military and their various war games. If we are not careful, we will NOT always have dolphins, whales and other sealife. The Navy must stop their sonar testing if it will damage or kill sealife.
Lett	Heidi	I am truly saddened to learn that the US Navy is planning to use live explosives and high intensity sonar that will affect the lives of 2000 marine animals. I have seen programs about marine mammals affected by navy exercises involving the use of explosives and that footage is highly disturbing as it highlights the effect such equipment has on marine life. In addition, the US Navy is carrying out these exercises without any regard for the marine life that is being affected in other countries by the use of it's sonar equipment. It is well documented that sound channels in the sea allow sound to travel over vast distances. Other countries deserve to be made aware and consulted about the US Navy's exercises. Please consider this matter seriously the Navy's actions impact upon lives of so many marine animals.
Levine	Melissa	Please do not do this. Our marine mammals are so precious and are such an important part of the greater ecosystem. We've already done so much damage to our oceans and the life there -- we should be doing everything we can to return the ecosystems to their previous state, not destroy them further.
Levine	Robin	I urge the Navy to limit the number of sonar exercises which negatively effect marine mammals. Evaluating necessary vs unnecessary testing is a fair compromise between the navy & environmental groups. These magnificent animals play a vitally important role on earth. Disrupting their environment , in such profound ways, is inhumane. We are the stewards of this planet and are responsible for protecting all of the earth's creatures. I hope that the navy makes sound decisions based on good science, and with the assistance of marine experts, so less stress is placed on the oceans ecosystems, which are so important to life on earth. Thank you.
Levitt	Jason	This comes up year after year. Please understand something. We, the concerned, care for the safety and preparation of the US Navy. AND, we accept that we (humans), MUST act responsibly regarding our actions here in relation to ALL who may be effected by it. You need to train. You also need to find a way to do so without bringing harm to the creatures with whom we share our waters. We aren't better or more important than them and we haven't the right to disregard their lives

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		<p>in pursuit of our own aims. We need to find a solution that works, and if that involves taking a radically new approach, applying innovative, out-of-the-box thinking to this problem, then it's about time. This principle is universal. No culture or industry ever survives, let alone thrives, without seeking to improve itself. And these improvements must benefit themselves as well as all others effected by their endeavors. If it doesn't, it is doomed to failure and will, inevitably, cause a de-evolution of all those associated and effected by it. So, DO you think you're able to access the genius required to come up with such a solution? I think you are. To do so, you'll have to fore-go your traditional approach to problem solving. Please, please, show us what you're really made of. Show us you're more than grunts with guns. Help us to remember that you are in fact intelligent, motivated, inspired protectors of things good in this world. Show us that you've found an elegant, brilliant, remarkably effective solution to this and we won't just get out of your way, we'll help you along. Can you imagine that? When you can, you're on the right track. in gratitude, Jason</p>
Lewis	Joanna	Please protect the future of our wildlife.
		<p>We are saddened to hear that they Navy is considering conducting exercises involving the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. Do you feel that it is really necessary to conduct this testing that will affect such a volume of marine life? It would be a great pity to see so much of the conservation work the USA has undertaken towards its marine environment over the last number of years being undermined by these proposed exercises. These conservation initiatives deserve to be applauded and have made the USA one of the leaders in marine conservation. To conduct these exercises flies in the face of all the good work and progress that has been achieved to date. There is also the issue of sound channels in the oceans that can carry sounds over vast distances, so not only local populations may be affected but also populations in areas seemingly far removed from the testing activities. As these activities could potentially affect endangered species on both the high seas and possibly in the territorial waters of other nations we believe that any other nations that could potentially be affected should be fully consulted, and the findings of any such consultations made public, prior to any decision being made on whether these activities should progress to the next stage. We would ask you to give serious consideration to just how necessary these proposed exercises are and where the benefits of them lie versus the destruction of marine life that so many dedicated citizens have worked tirelessly to preserve and enhance for both current and future generations. We look forward to hearing from you with your views on the above, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us, yours, Olivia Lewis</p>
Lewis	Olivia	
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Lewis	Olivia	
Lewis	Sammarye	I strongly oppose any further sonar testing in our ocean waters. This testing is

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		repetitive and unnecessary. The resulting stranding and deaths of marine mammals in these kinds of numbers is totally unacceptable. Whales and dolphins are already struggling to survive the existing global human impact, and there is no justification for the amount of anticipated deaths. The military should not be given any special permissions to kill federally protected marine mammals.
Li	Melissa	I have heard through the Humane Society that the Navy is proposing to conduct training exercises all along the U.S. East Coast and in the rich marine environment off the coast of California and Hawaii. The Navy proposes the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. Your own Environmental Impact Statements estimates that the planned exercises would kill up to 2,000 marine mammals, including a large number of animals from endangered species, such as right whales. Thousands of others would suffer permanent lung damage. An additional 16,000 would be permanently deafened and 5 million would be temporarily deafened by the exercises. How is this justifiable? This is unacceptable and horrific. These intelligent, sensitive creatures do not deserve to have their habitat recklessly destroyed and their lives impacted by unnecessary training exercises in their area. There must be a better way. Please consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. Please avoid areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoid seasonal high-use feeding areas; create a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and use aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. Please have compassion.
Lilja	Louise	We are saddened to hear that the Navy is considering conducting exercises involving the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. Do you feel that it is really necessary to conduct this testing that will affect such a volume of marine life? It would be a great pity to see so much of the conservation work the USA has undertaken towards its marine environment over the last number of years being undermined by these proposed exercises. These conservation initiatives deserve to be applauded and have made the USA one of the leaders in marine conservation. To conduct these exercises flies in the face of all the good work and progress that has been achieved to date. There is also the issue of sound channels in the oceans that can carry sounds over vast distances, so not only local populations may be affected but also populations in areas seemingly far removed from the testing activities. As these activities could potentially affect endangered species on both the high seas and possibly in the territorial waters of other nations we believe that any other nations that could potentially be affected should be fully consulted, and the findings of any such consultations made public, prior to any decision being made on whether these activities should progress to the next stage. We would ask you to give serious consideration to just how necessary these proposed exercises are and where the benefits of them lie versus the destruction of marine life that so many dedicated citizens have worked tirelessly to preserve and enhance for both current and future generations. We look forward to hearing from you with your views on the above, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us, yours, Louise Lilja
Lima	Angela	This testing is appalling!! And not moral in any form. No testing is worth many innocent lives and any living being. You all must find an alternative! We will not stand to let this happen to innocent marine life!!
Lindsay	Holly	Crimes against the earth are crimes against humanity. What you do to the earth, you do to the people. We are all ONE. This is a human rights issue because EIS/OEIS is destroying life on earth. Protecting life, means protecting each other. Do no harm.
Linzer	Mary	I am upset that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. There must be reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These

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		same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Whales and other ocean animals are already at risk from the changing acidity in the ocean. Please help keep them safe for the years they still have left in the ocean. Thank you. Mary Linzer
Livesey-Fassel	Elaine	With great respect for all the Navy in particular and the military do to protect USA citizens may I please beg and plead that you consider the harm that is done to dolphins and whales in some of the excercises that harm their guidance systems! We MUST consider the great benefit of these creatures to our World and not destroy them in the process. Thank you!
Locascio	Anthony	Has an analysis indicated the level of sonar testing that will have a minimal effect on marine mammals? With all of the scientific brainpower and experience concerning sonar testing they should arrive at an environmentally friendly solution. Has consideration been given to conducting sonar tests in waters avoiding marine mammals?
Lochlaer	Brian	Cetaceans are facing many threats: hunting, pollution, loss of food sources (due to overfishing by humans). We should not be adding to their problems. The relationship between sonar and stranding events is already documented. I know that the Navy's intentions are noble and honorable. But the cost in cetacean lives will be too high. Please abandon your plans to conduct these excercises.
Lockhart	Theresa	I am concerned about the impact the upcoming training excercises will have on marine life off the coasts of California and Hawaii. Please consider using protective measures when conducting activities that will harm or kill the marine mammals that many Americans appreciate and respect. Thank you for considering my comments.
Loe	Valerie	Please do the right thing and respect our oceans. The living organisms are more allowed to exist than us even. They do nothing but mind their own business and we do nothing but hurt them and their environments. Please again, do the right thing and leave the oceans alone. Spend less on war and more on friendships. It is possible.
Loew	Brenda	I urge you to protect Pacific marine mammals from injury & death by NAVY Sonar Weapons testing. Underwater sound systems damage and destroy organs that whales and porpoises need to survive. The under-ocean noise literally blasts apart the delicate fluid sacs (similar to our human ears) and makes the whale and other sea mammals unable to hunt which is essentially a death sentence. Projections indicate that 11.7 Million mammals would be affected. Please rule on the basis of reason and human conscience, not in response to an unconscionable escalation of military might. We have no looming threats being made by sea that require such magnitude of testing, and this particular plan's ramification is unacceptable.
Loggie	Anneke	Please protect all animals when testing your sonar and explosives. NO animal should die when you are testing. That is not fair to them. THANK YOU!! Anneke
Loggie	Micah	Please don't kill a bunch of Animals just so you can be "prepared" for a fight.
Longa	Joy	Please stop conducting sonar training and testing excercises which are endangering millions of marine mammals. These unnecessary practices are destroying our environment and wasting tax payer money. I am sickened by the thought that my hard earned money is being wasted by the Navy to conduct experiments that are killing and maiming endangered species.
Lopatka	Trina	We are saddened to hear that the Navy is considering conducting excercises involving the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. Do you feel that it is really necessary to conduct this testing that will affect such a volume of marine life? It would be a great pity to see so much of the conservation work the USA has undertaken towards its marine environment over the last number of years being undermined by these proposed excercises. These conservation initiatives deserve to be applauded and have made the USA one of the leaders in marine

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		<p>conservation. To conduct these exercises flies in the face of all the good work and progress that has been achieved to date. There is also the issue of sound channels in the oceans that can carry sounds over vast distances, so not only local populations may be affected but also populations in areas seemingly far removed from the testing activities. As these activities could potentially affect endangered species on both the high seas and possibly in the territorial waters of other nations we believe that any other nations that could potentially be affected should be fully consulted, and the findings of any such consultations made public, prior to any decision being made on whether these activities should progress to the next stage. We would ask you to give serious consideration to just how necessary these proposed exercises are and where the benefits of them lie versus the destruction of marine life that so many dedicated citizens have worked tirelessly to preserve and enhance for both current and future generations. We look forward to hearing from you with your views on the above, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us, yours, Trina Lopatka</p>
Lopez	Hayby	<p>I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.</p>
Lopez	John	<p>We understand the need for protecting our country, but we can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures. We MUST protect marine mammals from explosives and sonar along the East Coast» and California/Hawai. We know that in the past, whales have stranded and died in the wake of major military sonar exercises, with bleeding from the ears and other tissue damage attributed to sonar. These have included incidents of beaked whales dying in the Canary Islands following sonar exercises, the panicked flight of orcas and porpoises off Washington State in 2003, and dozens of whales (including pregnant females) from several species who died in North Carolina in 2005. These tragedies can be avoided to a very significant degree. Please to consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. We are calling on the U.S. Navy to re-think its plans and to incorporate additional protective measures</p>
Lord	Kevin	<p>I am opposed to any testing or other process by the US Navy that puts our valuable</p>

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		sea creatures at unnecessary risk. Whatever the purpose for this "testing", it should not interfere with the health and safety of ocean creatures. I'm sick of hearing how my own government kills, wounds, and maims creatures for 'science' or 'necessary drills'. You do not have to right to kill indiscriminately in the name of progress. You will not use my tax payments for any more deadly ventures. How about making sure you are not in an inhabited area, or find some way not to harm dolphins and whales with your deadly devices.
Lotts	Mary	Please stop this madness. There are other ways of testing, please don't kill marine mamals.
Lucas	Lea	How absolutely absurd that we would allow such a heinous act to even make it this far. What evil men propose such cruel displays of 'muscle'? There will be no hope for mankind as long as our military and leaders are allowed to act as such, with such disregard for our Oceans and the beautiful, feeling beings which live there. I believe you may have no souls, I will never stand behind our government until you start acting appropriately and decently. Shame on you! The government keeps waving their 'one nation under God' flag around but more and more are starting to realize who the real enemy is. You harm Gods creatures and destroy this beautiful planet with every act, the consequences will be dire. "Thou shalt not kill." No exceptions!!!!
Lucas	Lea	How absolutely absurd that we would allow such a heinous act to even make it this far in the planning stages! What evil men propose such cruel displays of 'muscle'? There will be no hope for mankind as long as our military and leaders are allowed to act as such, with such disregard for our Oceans and the beautiful, feeling beings which live there. I believe you may have no souls, I will never stand behind our government until you start acting appropriately and decent. Shame on you!! The government keeps waving their 'one nation under God' flag around but more and more people are starting to realize it's all a lie and who the real enemy is. You harm God's creatures and destroy this beautiful planet with every act, the consequences will be dire. "Thou shalt not kill." No Exceptions!!!
Lucky	Hope	I am concerned about the impact of this sonar on our sea life. I hope that more testing can be done to determine the effect upon sea mammals and the use of any device be postponed until some less harmful device is invented. I believe in the USA and its protection but hopefully we can also avoid killing the wonderful creatures of our planet except during unavoidable wartime. This sounds excessive.
Ludwig	Michael	We don't need to hurt marine mammals in order to stay ready to defend our country. The thinking that says we do, is thoroughly mistaken.
Lunardi	Rebecca	Please do not let our precious marine animals die from your experiments. Please have a conscious.
Lynch	Laura	I am writing to The Navy requesting that you include my comments on your Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) re: the use of high frequency underwater sound for testing in Hawaii, the California and Atlantic Coasts, and the Gulf of Mexico. According to your estimates it will deafen more than 15,900 whales and dolphins and kill 1,800 more over the next 5 years. Whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate and live. I am requesting that you please reconsider your Naval program, and save the lives of these ocean creatures.
Lynch	Susan	Please do all that you can to minimize the effects of sonar testing on marine wildlife. The reports that have been aired on reputable programs like the Today show indicate that temporary or permanent hearing loss among marine creatures that depend on their own sonar for navigation is likely, by your own estimates, in an enormous number of animals. The numbers are unacceptably high, and by working with other agencies (governmental and private environmental), you can significantly reduce the negative impact and still conduct the necessary research to protect our service men and women. Thank you! Susan Lynch
Lynne	Lora	I wish to state that the use of sonar testing in the pacific waters and the damage that will be done to marine life because of it is not okay at any level with this tax payer. I believe that if it were to be put to a vote at a national level that this would not be something that the citizens of this country would support. We do not want the endless wars either on our fellow human beings and we do not want it waged on our fellow creatures of the sea. Jefferson stated that taxation without representation is tyranny. Stop the tyranny of the military industrial complex and listen to your citizens!

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Lyter	George	U.S. Navy needs to re-think its plans and to incorporate additional protective measures. It is inhumane to harm the whales and other sea creatures. do what is right, please.
Maat	Doris	I have learned that the Navy is proposing to conduct training exercises that would involve the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar and would kill up to 2,000 marine mammals. Please reconsider and do not do these exercises. For what? So many creatures are risk to be killed, maimed and/or otherwise disabled. Do don't this please. Leave nature alone. Thanks, Doris Maat
Macinnis	Melinda	Dolphins and whale mothers use sound and echo location to communicate with their babies. The Navy will literally be ripping apart family units if it tests in sensitive areas. The whole process smacks of a disregard for life on this planet, not protection. It's shameful.
Maish	Karen	It is with disgust that I look out on the ocean and know that the plans to obliterate the lives of thousands of whales and dolphins are being set forward. This world has dangers and I am proud our Navy protects us from them, however, it is not a better world with this complete disregard for aquatic life.
Maish	Rebekah	The blatant disregard for life.....perpetrated by the US Federal Govt. must and will end. The TRUE terrorist GLOBALLY IS the US Federal Govt and its corporate & banker Military Industrial Complex. Americans will not stand for the incremental destruction of human & animal life and rights.....the illegal, and Unconstitutional governance we are temporarily & currently enslaved by will soon be expelled by ALL humanity and respect for our planet.....SANITY! and THE RULE OF LAW RESTORED!
Makely	L	Please find another way to test. Do not harm our wildlife!
Mancini	Marcy	Please, do NOT do the testing. Earth is not ours to destroy. We MUST protect the environment and all the living creatures. It is unacceptable to go through with these tests knowing whales & dolphins will be harmed. Stop now!
Mancini	Marcy	Whatever cost/ benefit analysis you did, your numbers are wrong! The cost is unfathomable!
Mandell	Risa	Hello: I am writing because I strongly oppose sonic testing. Animals exist in their own right as individuals pursuing their way of being, which is no more or less sacred and holy than yours or mine. My most recent concern is Decompression Related Embolism in Stranded Whales and Dolphins, which occurs exclusively due to the US Navy. I am a citizen. I do not support cruel and grievous conduct to human or non-human creatures. Moreover, means do not justify ends - even when those ends may seem justifiable to those employing unjust means. I do not support hurting or violence towards others, human or otherwise. I appreciate a strong defense but not one that disrupts, upsets or destroys others, human, non-human, plant, mineral, rock, water or soil. I look forward to your response. Thank you.
Mangan	Patti	Stop the killing of and or potentia1 killing of 1,600 whales and dolphins and the deafening of 11,200 more by ceasing the operation of the Navy's underwater sound system in the Hawaiian Islands and California coastline. Or anywhere else for that matter. It's 2012 - catch up with technology and adapt. I can't even believe I have to state the obvious.
Mann	Alison	I am very concerned about what the naval testing will do to sea life, especially whales and dolphins. Please do not let the sound testing happen.
Manning	Scarlett	Please do not hurt or kill our marine relations, It will not only hurt them but ultimately will have such a strong and a far reaching effect for the whole planet. There needs to be limits for scientific advancement and in this case not only will they suffer the consequences, but we, as a human race will too. We are all interlinked. That's why they are called our relations. Please, Please, Please protect them from explosives and sonar.
Marckx	Risty	There is much we don't know about whales but we do know they are highly intelligent, social, highly evolved mammals. We know their brains have as much or more surface area than ours which suggests their intelligence may parallel ours though it may be a very different kind of intelligence. Many marine mammal species are endangered because of human impacts upon their environment or hunting. Some whale populations which were in the past endangered are just beginning to return because of education and protection. We have no right to

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		knowingly permanently injure these living creatures who never purposefully injure humans unless first provoked. The Navy has admitted that the sonar tests will cause harm to whales and dolphins ranging from discomfort to disorientation to permanent deafness which would interfere with navigation, self defense and finding food thereby seriously impairing their ability to survive. Increased beaching and deaths of marine mammals have certainly been linked to previous Navy sound testing. Unless it is a time of war with imminent threat these tests should not be performed in areas known to be frequently passaged by whales and dolphins or within effective range of whales and dolphins. Please limit Navy sound testing to areas outside the known paths of migration, reproduction and feeding of whales and dolphins and other effected marine mammals. Please also require scanning for the presence of marine mammals within the disturbance zone prior to testing and delay testing until the marine mammals depart from the affected area. Unless the rights of these marine mammals are respected, I cannot condone Navy sound testing. Sincerely, Risty Marckx
Marie	Lisa	Please reconsider the supposed 'necessity' of any kind of training or testing that will harm our marine life. It is unfair to assume that the security of our country can be aided by means that disregard the other life that we share this planet with. The future consequences of destroying so many lives in our own environment cannot be accurately predicted. The cost outweighs any hoped-for benefits. It is a totally unnecessary lie that we humans, or we Americans have to choose between 'homeland security' and the lives of creatures that reside in the oceans that surround us. Again, I am begging that the Navy please reconsider this action.
Marigold	Qatsina	Please do not use Hawaii as a testing ground for explosives... We are in a very sacred land.
Marshall	Liz	Don't kill millions of creatures in the sea with sonar. That would be cruel and outrageous. Act responsibly.
Martin	Tracy	I have heard that there are sonar experiments about to be conducted that will kill and injure whales and dolphins and other sea life. I ask you to please discontinue these harmful exercises. Our world's oceans and sea life are fragile and precious. Please have a heart and stop this today. Thank you.
Martin	Victoria	Our oceans are under threat already, please dont let this happen
Marvin	Danielle	PLEASE don't do this. Our ocean is full of things that we don't even understand. The living beings in the ocean need as much protection as the living beings on land. I understand that the navy, government, and who ever has power, money, and voice to make these things stop and go doesn't really care about the citizens opinion, however please consider the beauty in the ocean, the importance it plays in all our lives, and please put those of us who cant come on land and speak their voice, some kinds of respect and rights! I appreciate the Navy and I thank all those who give us freedom, but the same freedom we savor, is the same freedom the ocean needs. We don't belong there. PLEASE hear the voice. Do what's right.
Matejcek	Patricia	I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is horrendous, a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found inadequate and ineffective by Federal courts. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, they would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal

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		density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
Matejek	Patricia	I support a robust Navy to protect US national security. But I believe it is imperative that this be achieved without sacrificing marine life essential to a healthy marine ecosystem on which all terrestrial life depends. According to its own Environmental Impact Statements, the US Navy estimates that the planned training exercises all along the U.S. East Coast and in the rich marine environment off the coast of California and Hawaii would involve the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. The casualties would be up to 2,000 marine mammals, including a large number of animals from endangered species, such as right whales. Thousands of others would suffer permanent lung damage, an additional 16,000 would be permanently deafened and 5 million would be temporarily deafened by the exercises. Marine mammals navigate, communicate and hunt by sound, which makes them extremely negatively affected by the high-intensity sonar and explosive detonations that currently are part of naval training exercises. Whales, dolphins, and porpoises have essential roles in maintaining marine biodiversity yet already face threats from global warming, ocean acidification, entanglement in fishing nets, loss of food to unregulated fishing, illegal killing. Losing thousands of them as the result of naval training exercises is unacceptable. In the past, whales have stranded and died in the wake of major military sonar exercises, with bleeding from the ears and other tissue damage attributed to sonar, including incidents of beaked whales dying in the Canary Islands following sonar exercises, the panicked flight of orcas and porpoises off Washington State in 2003, and dozens of whales (including pregnant females) from several species dying in North Carolina in 2005. I urge you to implement the full range of steps to reduce the harmful impacts of these exercises to marine mammals that are recommended by the HSUS and other environmental and animal welfare groups. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed.
Mattera	Manuela	The USA Navy is proposing to conduct training exercises that would involve the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar and would kill up to 2,000 marine mammals. Please protect marine mammals from explosives and sonar. We know that in the past, whales have stranded and died in the wake of major military sonar exercises, with bleeding from the ears and other tissue damage attributed to sonar. These have included incidents of beaked whales dying in the Canary Islands following sonar exercises, the panicked flight of orcas and porpoises off Washington State in 2003, and dozens of whales (including pregnant females) from several species who died in North Carolina in 2005. These tragedies can be avoided to a very significant degree. The HSUS is joining other environmental and animal welfare groups to ask the Navy to consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. We are calling on the U.S. Navy to re-think its plans and to incorporate additional protective measures.
Mattoon	Ellie	I greatly urge you to protect dolphins and whales along the west coast who lately have been at risk of dying out because of dangerous toxins coming from boats, and fishing nets. Some people might be thinking the navy is responsible for this. Thank you for reading this letter, Ellie Rose Mattoon Manager of Mammal department Animal INC.

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Mauthe	Nancy	The war is over! We do not need this horrible playing "Army" in our oceans. Do you realize how many animals you are killing? How rewarding is it to you when you see and smell a dead Whale, Seal, etc on the beach after one of these test? Stop the killing and go play your Army Games somewhere else, we all own a part of Big Blue and I don't like what you are doing to the life of the Ocean.
Maxey	Edith	Americans understand the necessity of conducting training exercises for our armed forces. However, we also understand that if the leaders of our armed forces use their intelligence and ingenuity, it is possible to protect innocent and vulnerable marine life from harm during such exercises. The oceans are the habitat for untold numbers of marine life. Just because we have the power to inflict harm on them, we have no moral right to do so. It is incumbent on the armed forces to demonstrate that they can fulfill their responsibilities without harming those forms of life who are the legitimate owners of the oceans.
May	Susan	Dear U.S. Navy, Please re-think your plans and incorporate the additional protective measures below to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. - Avoid the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors. - Avoid seasonal high-use feeding areas. - Create a larger "safety zone" around the exercises - Use aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. We need a strong Navy to protect our country and we need to protect and ensure a healthy ocean environment for whales, dolphins, and porpoises to live in as it is their given birth right. Respect and protection of marine environments makes us a great nation. We need to ensure that we do not harm many whales, dolphins and other marine creatures. The tragedies of the past can be avoided significantly. Please remove the facade of having to choose between a strong Navy and national security or a healthy marine environment for ocean mammals by implementing the protective measures above. Sincerely and Respectfully,
Mayer	Patricia	I oppose the expansion of Navy sonar testing in the Pacific area around Hawaii and California due to the negative impact on whales and other marine mammals.
Mayorga	Carrie	I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
Mc Keating	Robert	I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected

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		<p>damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.</p>
McCartney	Bonnie	<p>I watched the Navy video on this page and I am happy to note the huge efforts being made toward responsible behavior such as recycling, using alternative energy, improving the logger-head shrike population, etc. Accomplishing Navy goals while respecting the lives of other Earth creatures is incredibly complicated I'm sure. Since we see ourselves as the beings with the most intelligence and with the most valid agendas we have an even larger responsibility of stewardship for our fellow creatures while pursuing our goals. Although the Navy says it's doing the best it can to respect the marine creatures I don't believe the proposed testing methods do respect those creatures. I understand the testing is expected to deafen thousands of cetaceans in the course of standard operations. Others will die outright. While it seems bad enough that we would ruin their sense of hearing we need to remember that hearing is their way of living, finding food, communicating with their family/pod. Our desire to test weaponry and defensive methods should NOT turn us (and our children) into the terrorists of these creatures. The lifeforms on our planet are intertwined and all are hugely important. We humans are not intrinsically more important or better than any of the others and we shouldn't subject them to our damage. They have no way to take a stand in this; they are just busy trying to live. I say we let them do that to the very best of our ingenious ability. Please, do not approve testing/training procedures that impose such a price tag on these peaceful creatures.</p>
McDaniel	Julie	<p>I do not feel safe in a country that chooses to annihilate innocent marine life. With thousands of marine animals that will lose their life in explosions with high intensity sonar, please reconsider. I worry for the thousands more that are not killed instantly, but become deaf and die slow, terrifying deaths as ear tissue is destroyed and sonar communication becomes impossible... effectively intelligent marine life like dolphins and whales die alone and afraid. I believe national security is important, but I also believe in the 21st century with the great amount of intelligence and creativity the finest in the US Navy offer, we can find a better way. Please include protective measures. I know the US Navy is designed to protect US citizens such as myself, but I do not feel protected if the wildlife I love is destroyed. These actions hurt the reputation of the military and country I respect and admire. It becomes more difficult to defend that the US Navy is a force for good, when that force is used to harm. Please mitigate the harm these training actions will take and take protective measures supported by the Humane Society of the US as well as many environmental groups. Thank you so very much for your time and consideration!</p>
McGovern	Joan	<p>i am sorry i missed your public meeting and comment opportunity in may. i just recently became aware of the navy's plan to kill and deafen thousands of crustaceans and other marine life. i wonder how often these programs are evaluated for the impact on the environment and defenseless animals that are at the mercy of our gov't programs that are deemed necessary and fair but only</p>

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		further destroy and cause the decay of our planet. i hope there were other in the communities who care about the marine life of our planet who voiced similar concerns. thank you for the opportunity to express my concern. joan mcgovern
McGraw	Scott	The Navy's own estimates of sonar and bombs testing causing harm and mortality to so many marine mammals is evidence that the Navy needs to make significant changes to minimize this harm and deaths. I support the recent lawsuits against the Navy that call for scaling back your programs. I urge you to take all steps requested by marine biologists to minimize harm.
McIndoo	Hilary	<p>Hello Navy. As a military brat I understand the need for a secure world and I believe in the men and women who work to uphold it. But I have been watching the "progress" of your sonar technology since the early days of LFAS and, really, thank God for our environmental protection procedures and laws. You are messing with this technology simply for technology's sake. Unfortunately too many individuals in the military system are in deep denial about Sept. 11th. All the best technology in the world is not going to cover up the fact that this simple and brilliant plan was used so devastatingly against us by using our own everyday things. Box cutters. Planes. They didn't come at us in submarines and LFAS didn't protect us then. "They" won't now either. Because the game of war has changed. An underwater Maginot Line doesn't answer for our inability to think like the enemy! These military mistakes have happened over and over in human history. What makes you think you are any different? Your myopic belief in your newest strategy--this technology--will finally make us invulnerable? It won't. Because you aren't thinking like them! A trained killer with a box cutter, if he goes swimming, will go around your sonar wall of death and get us from behind. And they will succeed. Again. Learn from history and stop repeating it. What you are doing is an abomination. It is an abomination to create, test and implement this weapon-- because that is exactly what your sonar acts like-- against another species in their home environment. An environment that we know very little about, and which they are dependant upon for their very survival. They cannot live on land. We cannot live in the ocean. It's not like they have somewhere else to go! And your motives are not heroic. They are very dark indeed. Otherwise why do this in an environment in which we cannot see what you are doing and likewise see the actual true consequences?! It's not just the dolphins and whales, it's the very bottom of the ocean global food chain too! No doubt your weapon can blast apart the simple life forms upon which ALL OF US depend. You are engaging in an unprovoked act of aggression against innocents. There is no way you can rationalize this. HUMAN warfare against HUMAN INNOCENTS is unfortunately part of our human condition. But not the cetaceans and the millions of lives in the sea. And they have no means to defend themselves against us. What you are doing is fundamentally and profoundly wrong.</p> <p>Personally, I have been reeling through the shocks of the economic problems that are part of the history since LFAS, just as Sept 11th is part of that history. I find it so hard to believe that so many good and decent people are having such trouble paying their basic bills, and yet YOU have no issues with spending money on this weapon, this ultimately useless underwater Maginot line, the consultants salaries to convince us otherwise, the maps and diagrams, the list goes on and on. I have to budget a trip to the copy shop. One of your maps and diagrams would stretch that budget, so it wouldnt get done instead. And yet there you are, well fed and housed, on your military career tracks, self assured in your faith in your system. Good for you. Again, I've been there. But because I am reeling along with so many other good people does not mean that I am weak, or powerless, or that I cannot hold you to account. What you are doing is sick. Dangerous. Perverse. And you know it! This is not noble or heroic. It is not upholding any shining military virtues. It will not protect us. When the killer with the box cutter chooses to swim around you, it will prove once again that you failed to protect us. You failed in your duty. And in addition, you will have done so while desecrating whole communities of cetaceans and sea life. And you will be rewarded by adding their pain and suffering to the ghosts and demons that already haunt you. -*- Don't do this. Sincerely, Hilary McIndoo</p>
McIndoo	Hilary	I just sent you my document but I couldn't get the cut and paste to work. Also my iPad does not have a printer port. So I want you to acknowledge that my comment was recieved and to please email me the entire copy of my comment. This is

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		required of a document that is public record, such as being submitted to this EIS. Hilary
McIntyre	Carmen	Please reconsider the explosive and sonar exercises. The military forces of the United States should be know to protect their people, but also protect their environment and animals within this environment. How can the people responsible sleep at night, knowing what they destroyed. This earth and many of the animal species have been here way before us and we should not take the liberty to destroy them!
McKenna	Joan	To whom it may concern: It has come to my attention that the Navy plans to conduct training exercises along the California coast that could negatively affect marine wildlife. I am asking the Navy to instead consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. Thank you for your consideration. Joan McKenna California resident
McNulty	Marnie	I can barely express how horrified I felt when I saw the amount of devastation to be wrought by your projected training exercises. This is an abomination and must not take place. Damaging our planet and Her seas for any reason makes no sense. It seems more fitting that you should be protecting Her, in all aspects. The planet is our home, the only one we've got! Respectfully, Marnie McNulty
McRory	Katherine	The HSUS is joining other environmental and animal welfare groups to ask the Navy to consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. We are calling on the U.S. Navy to re-think its plans and to incorporate additional protective measures. Thank you, Kathy McRory
Megan	Megan	Navy, NO, this is absolutely not acceptable. Sacrificing lives for tests is not an intelligent or sensitive decision. My entire American family does not support the decision to "sound" test! Absolutely not!! Sincerely, Megan , Gabriel & Frances
Megles	Suzana	As a senior citizen I have been aware of other times also when our scientists tested sonar and explosives where the whales, fish, etc. of our oceans were threatened and even harmed. Truly I am ashamed of how little respect we have for these creatures. Will we ever learn to respect them and find other ways to conduct these tests? Are they even all that necessary? Of course, people have always found ways to justify their cruelty to animals. 60 Minutes years ago profiled Dr. Michael Carey who shot 600 cats in the head for a wound study. Imagine this was approved. Either I am terribly abtuse or many people are.
Meima	Esther	I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal

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Meister	Ann	As a US tax paying citizen, I find it totally unacceptable that the Navy would even consider doing any kind of testing that would do harm to whales and dolphins, not to mention other marine life. We are stewards of this planet, not destroyers. These animals are not only highly intelligent and beautiful creatures, they are also part of the web that we all belong to. I urge you to reconsider your position on this issue. I would venture to guess that if this were taken up for a vote, most every person in this country would vote in favor of the marine life. Thank you , Ann Meister
Meltzer	Laura	I love the Navy but the potential catastophic effects of the proposed testing is unacceptable and inconsistent with the values we share. There must be another way to serve the Navy's needs while protecting our precious marine mammals. thank you.
Merritt	Joan	I feel that the Navy is being very irresponsible for testing around 2 of the most beautiful states in the entire U.S. I have homes along the coast of California and on Kauai. The dolphins, whales, and other marine life are already affected by pollution. Now you are going to confuse them more with sonar. I think it speaks so poorly for those in planning and think some other sites should be considered. How about off of Mexico. I sometimes wonder how smart organizations headed by even smarter people can make such stupid choices. This to me is more important than who runs for president or Congress. Before retirement I worked for a government contractor and God help us if you have solicited contractors to perform your dirty work. I'm not sure I'm a proud American when decisions like this are made.
Mezzanatto	Loree	I find it reprehensible that as a country we would even consider doing this. Knowing how it affects the oceans beautiful mammals. We are SO much better than this! Have we not become less of a barbaric nation? Are we not supposed to be the example for others? Does anything go now, in the climate of lies and dishonesty, no integrity and whats in it for me..... the Navy has no intention of protecting the mammals in the ocean. They are intelligent beautiful creatures. Would you do this to your family and children? I sure hope not. Then act as if you have a heart and do what is right. Stop implementing something that you KNOW to be harmful. Please.
Micklo	Kelly	Please refrain from sonar practices all together or at the very least make every attempt possible to protect and preserve all marine life at every level. We should strive to be a leader in the world in preserving and enriching life. We teach by example and thus we must take care of all of life.
Minton	C.c.	I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious

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Miranda	Lisa	Dear U.S. Navy, Please re-think your plans and incorporate the additional protective measures below to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. - Avoid the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors. - Avoid seasonal high-use feeding areas. - Create a larger "safety zone" around the exercises - Use aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. We need a strong Navy to protect our country and we need to protect and ensure a healthy ocean environment for whales, dolphins, and porpoises to live in as it is their given birth right. Respect and protection of marine environments makes us a great nation. We need to ensure that we do not harm many whales, dolphins and other marine creatures. The tragedies of the past can be avoided significantly. Please remove the facade of having to choose between a strong Navy and national security or a healthy marine environment for ocean mammals by implementing the protective measures above. Sincerely and Respectfully,
Miranda	Sina	Dear U.S. Navy, Please re-think your plans and incorporate the additional protective measures below to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. - Avoid the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors. - Avoid seasonal high-use feeding areas. - Create a larger "safety zone" around the exercises - Use aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. We need a strong Navy to protect our country and we need to protect and ensure a healthy ocean environment for whales, dolphins, and porpoises to live in as it is their given birth right. Respect and protection of marine environments makes us a great nation. We need to ensure that we do not harm many whales, dolphins and other marine creatures. The tragedies of the past can be avoided significantly. Please remove the facade of having to choose between a strong Navy and national security or a healthy marine environment for ocean mammals by implementing the protective measures above. Sincerely and Respectfully,
Misseldine	Carol	I am deeply concerned that you are proposing to conduct training exercises that will involve the use of live explosives and high - intensity sonar. Your own estimates show that you will kill up to 2,000 marine and thousands more will suffer permanent damage such as deafness. Please do everything you can to reduce the harmful impacts to marine animals such as avoiding activities in calving grounds or along migratory corridors; avoiding high-use feeding areas and monitoring to determine if marine mammals are nearby. If you take these actions, your training can still go forward, but you'll minimize damage to these beautiful creatures. Thank you for your consideration. Carol Misseldine 16 Escalon Drive Mill Valley, CA 94941
Mitchell	Deborah	There is much we don't know about whales but we do know they are highly intelligent, social, highly evolved mammals. We know their brains have as much or more surface area than ours which suggests their intelligence may parallel ours though it may be a very different kind of intelligence. Many marine mammal species are endangered because of human impacts upon their environment or hunting. Some whale populations which were in the past endangered are just beginning to return because of education and protection. We have no right to knowingly permanently injure these living creatures who never purposefully injure humans unless first provoked. The Navy has admitted that the sonar tests will cause harm to whales and dolphins ranging from discomfort to disorientation to permanent deafness which would interfere with navigation, self defense and finding food thereby seriously impairing their ability to survive. Increased beaching and deaths of marine mammals have certainly been linked to previous Navy sound

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		testing. Unless it is a time of war with imminent threat these tests should not be performed in areas known to be frequently passaged by whales and dolphins or within effective range of whales and dolphins. Please limit Navy sound testing to areas outside the known paths of migration, reproduction and feeding of whales and dolphins and other effected marine mammals. Please also require scanning for the presence of marine mammals within the disturbance zone prior to testing and delay testing until the marine mammals depart from the affected area. Unless the rights of these marine mammals are respected, I cannot condone Navy sound testing. Most sincerely, Deborah Mitchell
Mitchell	Miles	I strongly urge not proceeding with this testing as planned. I understand that it is not disuputed that this is harmful to marine animals, including very intelligent animals such as whales and dolphins, and perhaps gravely so. Of course this is measured against the importance of this testing to national security to a degree that perhaps the public cannot fully know. I do not contest that we value human life over animal life, but of course that relative value cannot be an absolute argument allowing any harm to animals that might potentially be of any small benefit to our species. And in particular, with certain species, we see an almost universal desire to value their well being almost as much as we value our own. There have been many suggestions for modifications in the way the testing is done that would mitigate the suffering of these animals, and I cannot see not doing such things as we might, albeit at some expense. Thank you.
Moak	Darlene	I am alarmed and appalled that the US Navy is planning to conduct underwater testing involving explosives and high intensity sonar in areas where dolphins and whales will be injured and killed. Surely there are other ways to conduct this sort of testing that will not endanger these beautiful animals. This type of testing in indefensible and wrong. We do not own this world; the United States needs to occupy the "high ground" in regard to its treatment of animals. There are many things that we need to do to accomplish this. Abandoning this current testing plan is one step that will move this process forward. Thank you for your consideration.
Mohan	Heather	"These exercises would involve the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. According to its own Environmental Impact Statements, the Navy estimates that the planned exercises would kill up to 2,000 marine mammals, including a large number of animals from endangered species, such as right whales. Thousands of others would suffer permanent lung damage. An additional 16,000 would be permanently deafened and 5 million would be temporarily deafened by the exercises." This is not worth it. Please find other ways to practice or don't practice
Monasevitch	Nina	Koholā Leo 4457 Laukini Rd. Lihue, HI 96766 Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Southwest July 10, 2012 Attention: HSTT EIS/OEIS Project Manager – EV21.CS 1220 Pacific Highway, Building 1, Floor 3 San Diego, CA 92132-5190 Re: Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement for Hawaii-Southern California Training and Testing To Whom it may concern This DEIS is fatally flawed and fails to comply with the basic requirements of NEPA. And it fails to properly analyze impacts on marine mammals. The Navy's assessment of impacts is consistently undermined by its failure to meet these fundamental responsibilities of scientific integrity, methodology, investigation, and disclosure. The DEIS disregards a great deal of relevant information adverse to the Navy's interests, uses approaches and methods that would not be acceptable to the scientific community, and ignores whole categories of impacts. In short, it leaves the public with an analysis of harm—behavioral, auditory, and physiological—that is at odds with established scientific authority and practice. The Navy must revise its acoustic impacts analysis, including its thresholds and risk function, to comply with NEPA. The DEIS fails to address other impacts to marine mammals including: stress & indirect effects. The DEIS fails to address effects of toxic chemicals, hazardous materials and waste oil spills on cetaceans and all marine life. The Navy must adequately evaluate impacts and propose mitigation for each category of harm for all species marine life. And each individual federal activity that is to have a significant environmental impact should have its own environmental analysis. For example RIMPAC and DARPA each need their own separate EIS. To comply with NEPA, an agency must discuss measures designed to mitigate its project's impact on the environment. See 40 C.F.R. § 1502.14(f). There is a large and growing set of

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		<p>options for the mitigation of noise impacts to marine mammals and other marine life, some of which have been imposed by foreign navies—and by the Navy itself, in other contexts—to limit harm from high-intensity sonar exercises. Yet here the Navy does little more than set forth an abbreviated set of measures, dismissing effective measures out of hand. The Navy's reliance on visual observation as the mainstay of its mitigation plan is therefore profoundly misplaced. The Navy can, and must, do more to mitigate the harm on marine wildlife. Given the scope of the proposed action, the deficiencies of the Navy's cumulative impacts assessment represents a critical failure of the DEIS. In relation Sonar impact on cetaceans the likely cause of mass strandings are panic, bubble formation and/or decompression sickness (based on real scientific published papers): 1) Sonar caused panic reactions leading to strandings followed by death 2) Sonar caused decompression sickness (the bends) followed by death 3) The bends caused by sonar even in the absence of panic These three points were either not included or not addressed in a scientifically relevant matter. The following five papers must be included in the EIS and the data should be researched and analyzed by NON-Navy scientists and contractors: J. R. POTTER,, 'A Possible Mechanism for Acoustic Triggering of Decompression Sickness Symptoms in Deep-Diving Marine Mammals' Paper presented at the IEEE International Symposium on Underwater Technology 2004, Taipei Taiwan, April 2004. PARSONS, E. C. M.; SARAH J. DOLMAN; ANDREW J. WRIGHT; NAOMI A. ROSE and W. C. G. BURNS. MARINE POLLUTION BULLETIN 56(7):1248-1257. 2008. Navy sonar and cetaceans: Just how much does the gun need to smoke before we act? TYACK, PETER L. JOURNAL OF MAMMALOGY 89(32):549-558. 2008. Implications for marine mammals of large-scale changes in the marine acoustic environment. WRIGHT, A. J.; N. AGUILAR SOTO; A. BALDWIN; M. BATESON; C. BEALE; C. CLARK; T. DEAK; E. EDWARDS; A. FERNANDEZ; A. GODINHO; L. HATCH; A. KAKUSCHKE; D. LUSSEAU; D. MARTINEAU; L. ROMERO; L. WEILGART; B. WINTLE; G. NOTARBARTOLO DI SCIARA and V. MARTIN. INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF COMPARATIVE PSYCHOLOGY 20(2-3):274- 316. 2007. Do marine mammals experience stress related to anthropogenic noise? FAERBER, M. M., R. W. BAIRD. 2010. Does a lack of observed beaked whale strandings in military exercise areas mean no impacts have occurred? A comparison of stranding and detection probabilities in the Canary and main Hawaiian Islands. Marine Mammal Science DOI: 10.1111/j.1748-7692.2010.00370.x In the DIES the Navy also fails to include data from the July 2004 Hanalei Bay event, in which 150-200 melon-headed whales were embayed for more than 24 hours during the Navy's Rim of the Pacific exercise. . According to the Navy's analysis, predicted mean received levels (from mid-frequency sonar) inside and at the mouth of Hanalei Bay ranged from 137.9 dB to 149.2 dB. The Navy has from the beginning denied any connection between its major international exercise and the mass stranding. However, the Navy's specious reasoning is at odds with the stranding behavior observed during the event and with NMFS' report on the matter, which ruled out every other known potential factor and concluded that sonar was the "plausible if not likely" cause. The Navy's failure to incorporate these numbers into its methodology as another data set is unjustifiable. Hawaii is very different from other areas. The EIS needs to identify areas where the species are for each island. On October 28, 2004 the European Parliament passed a resolution that is probably one of the strongest statements by an international body yet on the issue of military sonar and its impact on cetaceans. This resolution called on the European Commission and the Member States to: "adopt a moratorium on the deployment of high-intensity active naval sonars until a global assessment of their cumulative environmental impact on marine mammals, fish and other marine life has been completed"; and "immediately restrict the use of high-intensity active naval sonars in waters falling under their jurisdiction"; as well as to "set up a Multinational Task Force to develop international agreements regulating noise levels in the world's oceans, with a view to regulating and limiting the adverse impact of anthropogenicsonars on marine mammals and fish." (European Commission, 2004) Indeed, the greatest user of military sonars in the world, the US Navy, appears to be in denial about the situation and dismissive of the concerns of the majority of the population and other nations. And the most shocking part of the</p>

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		document is the "justification" for the NOAA Marine Fisheries "take" permit to harm and kill endangered marine mammals more than 33 million times during five years of testing and training with sonar and explosives. Including more than five million instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss (since no one involved in this DEIS seems to understand science, here is an important fact: a deaf cetacean is a dead cetacean), almost 9,000 lung injuries, and more than 1,800 deaths. These numbers are unconscionable and unacceptable! So, again we state your "science" in the DEIS is severely flawed and inadequate! We request this DEIS be re-done by non-Navy professionals. For the whales and healthy oceans, Sincerely, Koholā Leo (Whale Voice) http://www.koholaleo.com/
Monin	Jennifer	I am writing in protest of navy testing in southern California waters in defense of whales.
Monroe	Sharon	I am big fan of whales, but I am not against your testing. I believe that you will be aware of possible damage and work to minimize it as much as possible. Some things are more important that protecting wildlife and I hope that your training and testing will be beneficial.
Montalbano	Sonia	I do NOT support the use of US tax dollars to fund sonar testing of the type contemplated by the US Navy in the proposed program. There is no question that sonar tests of this nature cause damage to whale and dolphin species of every type, including endangered species. Some of these species have only just come back from the brink of extinction. Our Navy is one of the largest and most advanced in the world. While I understand that continuing to advance our naval technology is one of the ways in which we achieved and can maintain that status, I do not suport doing so at the expense of the lives of these creatures. We must approach these issues from the perspective that the worst case scenario will occur, because it often does, and in light of the Navy's own increased estimates of sonar contacts, this number is simply too high. Use the resources we have to develop even better technologies that will maintain our position in the world as a military leader, without harming these creatures. If we can send a man to the moon, I have no doubt you can accomplish this as well.
Moore	Ileah	save the whales, don't kill them in the name of training exercises!
Moorehead	Kathy	Please consider the mission of the Navy, to protect us. You are not protecting our overall health and safety if you are simultaneously damaging our oceans. They are not empty space; they are active living ecosystems that need certain conditions to survive. The oceans are already under attack from overfishing, pollution, and ocean acidification. Wouldn't it be great to see our USA Navy become the true defenders of our oceans and put their efforts towards guarding against illegal poaching and complete destruction of all the worlds fish stocks. I'd love to send my tax dollars in for that. Be real heroes. Protect us from the real threat to Americans and everyone else. First do no harm. Protect our oceans, USA. You can do it!! Go USA!!
Moreland	Sandra	While I believe that we need a strong Navy for protect national security reasons, I also strongly believe that we need to be respectful and protect marine mammals and the oceans. I do not think we have to choose between these two options; we can have both. Because we can have both, I am writing today to ask the Navy to use training methods that do not kill or damage marine mammals such as whales, dolphins and other marine creatures. I understand that from your own Environmental Impact statements you estimate the current planned exercises would kill up to 2,000 marine mammals, including a large number of animals from endangered species, such as right whales. Thousands of others would suffer permanent lung damage. An additional 16,000 would be permanently deafened and 5 million would be temporarily deafened by the exercises. Damaging or killing these creatures is unacceptable and beneath us as a great country. A great country does not squander life of any kind when there are other ways to achieve what we need. We understand the need for protecting our country, but we can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures. I urge the Navy to protect marine mammals from explosives and sonar along the coasts of California and Hawaii. I urge the Navy to take steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. Such steps to protect these magnificent creatures include: a) avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors;

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		b) avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; c) creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and d) use aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Implementing these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. Please do not go forward with activities that will maim or kill marine creatures without these mitigating steps to protect them. Thank you, Sandra Moreland
Mork	Karen	Please discontinue plans for the use of explosives that will, according to the Navy's own research, cause hearing loss in more than 1,600 marine mammals and potentially kill 200 more. The benefits of this project cannot possibly outweigh the negative effects of this program.
Morris	Elizabeth	Please do not move forward with the sound testing under consideration. There is much we don't know about whales but we do know they are highly intelligent, social, highly evolved mammals. We know their brains have as much or more surface area than ours which suggests their intelligence may parallel ours though it may be a very different kind of intelligence. Many marine mammal species are endangered because of human impacts upon their environment or hunting. Some whale populations which were in the past endangered are just beginning to return because of education and protection. We have no right to knowingly permanently injure these living creatures who never purposefully injure humans unless first provoked. The Navy has admitted that the sonar tests will cause harm to whales and dolphins ranging from discomfort to disorientation to permanent deafness which would interfere with navigation, self defense and finding food thereby seriously impairing their ability to survive. Increased beaching and deaths of marine mammals have certainly been linked to previous Navy sound testing. Unless it is a time of war with imminent threat these tests should not be performed in areas known to be frequently passaged by whales and dolphins or within effective range of whales and dolphins. Please limit Navy sound testing to areas outside the known paths of migration, reproduction and feeding of whales and dolphins and other effected marine mammals. Please also require scanning for the presence of marine mammals within the disturbance zone prior to testing and delay testing until the marine mammals depart from the affected area. Unless the rights of these marine mammals are respected, I cannot condone Navy sound testing.
Morris	Jennie	I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
Morris	Kirstin	The Navy's DEIS is fatally flawed and fails to comply with the basic requirements of NEPA. The Navy's assessment of impacts is consistently undermined by its failure to meet these fundamental responsibilities of scientific integrity, methodology,

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		<p>investigation, and disclosure. The Navy must revise its acoustic impacts analysis, including its thresholds and risk function, to comply with NEPA. The Navy fails to properly analyze impacts on marine mammals. For example Sonar impacts on cetaceans that are the likely cause of mass strandings are panic, bubble formation and/or decompression sickness. The following must be included in the DEIS: 1) Sonar caused panic reactions leading to strandings followed by death 2) Sonar caused decompression sickness (the bends) followed by death 3) The bends caused by sonar even in the absence of panic The following scientific papers need to be included in the EIS: J. R. POTTER; 'A Possible Mechanism for Acoustic Triggering of Decompression Sickness Symptoms in Deep-Diving Marine Mammals' Paper presented at the IEEE International Symposium on Underwater Technology 2004, Taipei Taiwan, April 2004. PARSONS, E. C. M.; SARAH J. DOLMAN; ANDREW J. WRIGHT; NAOMI A. ROSE and W. C. G. BURNS. MARINE POLLUTION BULLETIN 56(7):1248-1257. 2008. Navy sonar and cetaceans: Just how much does the gun need to smoke before we act? TYACK, PETER L. JOURNAL OF MAMMALOGY 89(32):549-558. 2008. Implications for marine mammals of large-scale changes in the marine acoustic environment. WRIGHT, A. J.; N. AGUILAR SOTO; A. BALDWIN; M. BATESON; C. BEALE; C. CLARK; T. DEAK; E. EDWARDS; A. FERNANDEZ; A. GODINHO; L. HATCH; A. KAKUSCHKE; D. LUSSEAU; D. MARTINEAU; L. ROMERO; L. WEILGART; B. WINTLE; G. NOTARBARTOLO DI SCIARA and V. MARTIN. INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF COMPARATIVE PSYCHOLOGY 20(2-3):274- 316. 2007. Do marine mammals experience stress related to anthropogenic noise? FAERBER, M .M., R. W. BAIRD. 2010. Does a lack of observed beaked whale strandings in military exercise areas mean no impacts have occurred? A comparison of stranding and detection probabilities in the Canary and main Hawaiian Islands. Marine Mammal Science DOI: 10.1111/j.1748-7692.2010.00370.x The DEIS fails to address the following: other impacts on marine mammals such as stress, indirect effects, cumulative impacts, effects of toxic chemicals, hazardous materials and waste oil spills. The Navy must adequately evaluate impacts and propose mitigation for each category of harm for all species marine life. Each individual potentially federal activity that is to have a significant environmental impact should have its own environmental analysis. For example, RIMPAC and DARPA each need separate EIS's. The Navy failed to analyze the impacts on fish and fisheries.</p>
Morris	Linda	Please STOP! If man continues to destroy the natural environment and it's creatures, our lives will not be safe or secure, no matter how many underwater warning systems are in place!
Morrison	Douglas	We understand the need for protecting our country, but we can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures. Please consider alternate means which will help protect these amazing animals. Thanks you.
Moses	Tai	I strenuously object to this testing on the grounds that it is harmful for our marine mammal species. We Americans who live on the Pacific Rim -- California and Hawaii -- value our marine environments and we also support the Navy as well. But we are asking the Navy to take protective measures and find a way to train that does not harm and kill our marine wildlife. We have enough robust science by now to show that these training exercises are devastating for whales and dolphins. Please take steps to find training that eliminates the harm to our marine mammals.
Mueller	Marcia	Please reconsider and do not conduct training exercises where there are so many sea animals to injure. There are ways to avoid harm by avoiding migratory routes, calving areas, using safety zones, and monitoring sea life activity in the area. We do not want to hear that whales, porpoises, or other animals are dying.
Mulholland	Jan	Please do everything in your power to ensure that whales and dolphins are not harmed in you testing of sonar! These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors;and avoid seasonal high-use feeding areas; and to create a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. I implore you to take these precautions into consideration!

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Munoz	Samantha	Hello. I'm writing to you today because I recently read that the Navy estimates up to 2,000 marine mammals, including a large number of animals from endangered species, could be killed due to exercises performed by the navy using live explosives and sonar. Thousands of others would suffer permanent lung damage. An additional 16,000 would be permanently deafened and 5 million would be temporarily deafened by the exercises. I understand the need to protect our country, but we can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures. I'm asking that you please protect marine mammals from explosives and sonar along the East Coast» and California/Hawaii! Thank you so much for your time. Samantha Munoz
Munzon	Elizabeth	I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
Nagy	James	I
Nakamura	Lance	1) please, please, please publicize this site as an alternative to http://signon.org/sign/navy-under-water-sound?source=s.em.mt&r_by=2886317 2) A hard commitment to accelerated development of more capable (highly realistic and flexible) sonar training simulators that can be used in fleet training activities would be a good compromise - this could be a cooperative effort between academia, industry, and the military across RIMPAC nations. By hard commitment, I mean for example reducing the amount of live sonar time by 50% by the next exercise or next EIS period 3) Since there appears to be research showing that mammals will leave the area and return, a training/testing schedule that included a warning/chase activity using lower amplitude signals followed by the actual exercise focused to minimize duration, followed by a minimum waiting period before the next sequence, might be a relatively simple way to minimize the effects at reasonable overall cost. 4) item 3) could be combined with item 2) so an extended exercise like RIMPAC could be conducted with a combination of simulated and live exercises with the additional benefit of using live data to calibrate/validate the simulations.
Needham	Patricia	I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is

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		<p>staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. This needs to stop so that my two boys will have the chance to see these whales when they get older. Please help we can only be the voice for the ones who can't talk. Let me be one of the million voices that are trying to help save the whales. Thank you</p>
Nelson	Jill	<p>PLEASE take steps to reduce the harmful impacts of testing to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises, and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. PLEASE re-think training exercise and testing plans and incorporate additional protective measures. THANK YOU. Jill Nelson - Kansas City, KS</p>
Nesladek	Richard	<p>Please stop any testing and let the ocean be free from this kind of cruelty to the environment.</p>
Ness	Rebecca	<p>Please do not move forward with your plans for training and testing in the waters around California and Hawaii. These marine mammals have enough threats and issues due to human choices and behaviors. They are entitled to live just as we are. They're safety and well-being is equally important to ours. Sincerely, Rebecca R. Ness</p>
Nevans	Ann	<p>Please do not conduct military tests which harm marine wildlife.</p>
Newhouse	Gayle Newhouse	<p>Ladies and Gentlemen, We live in a busy world which is why jobs are created. These jobs are designed to allow citizens of the world time to do the job they are focusing on for the betterment of family and global community with the comfort that the jobs they are paying for via taxes are representative and an extension of their own personal integrity to life. With this system design we wish to be confident in our employees ie Navy, etc, as they expedite protection for sustainable life not dominance over life. I support protection of life, thus support military personnel. However, I do not condone morally wrong behavior toward what I consider an attack on conscious life through a murderous approach. It is obvious that cetaceans have mind, body, emotions and social community. It is obvious that we have not enough knowledge to jeopardize the balance of this water planet by using EIS/OEIS pollution in the water upon a blue-water planet we are currently and biologically calling home. I can feel the electromagnetic pollutions we have created on land and I caution additional stress we are implementing to the earth and her creatures for the sake of war, destruction, control and science. We are ignoring and have imprisoned the basic wisdom of the indigenous keepers of the earth thus putting at risk Humanity's basic roots and human's basic desire to be kind. I do believe research and history has noted that we are in danger of extinction, thus I support protection for all life until which time war and death proves a more successful way to create peace and life. We have technology which is supportive; and less aggressive and primitive; by using a more compassionate approach that allows the evolution of Humanity to show dignity and sophistication toward the balance and harmony the Universe mathematically and scientifically has exhibited in the creation of the solar system, planetary interaction, to the tiniest living</p>

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		<p>organism, which we are constantly putting at risk through our desire to manipulate and control that, which in the long run, we will ultimately discover were designed to dominate life and remove the joy of living. Whomsoever participates in projects such as these will find accountability and shame following their heirs and heritage for years to come. To protect the future generations we must put a stop to historic behavior of destruction, ignorance and unconsciousness. Education does not make a person smart, but wisdom does. Reflect on the logic and wisdom of EIS/OEIS and you, too, will find a lack of evolution in this process, unkindness, irrevocable ramifications and a danger to our future possibly leading to the extinction of humankind. Know the land and you shall know thyself. Treat the earth with respect and you shall reap respect on a level, I believe, has yet to be considered. Respectfully, Gayle Newhouse</p>
Newland	Star	<p>I bring this up as it helps me come full circle with this chapter. What is unity consciousness really about? A last story ... As a dolphin researcher all I'd known of the Navy was other people's impressions of them as 'dolphin/whale killers' and so on. They were the 'enemy'. September 16, 2006 the Navy came to town for a scoping meeting, to present information about their Environmental Impact Statement and to receive input from community members. As I drove cross island to our destined rendezvous in Hilo, I meditated as grandmother- to- be. My first grandchild was soon to be born. I so wanted a future world for all of us and her especially now to have a world to love and appreciate and learn about and thrive on. We looked as though we were about to go to war, yet again, and all I wanted was to find the common ground with the Navy, to find a way to reach out to 'them' to be one with, to agree that we had a shared dream. Inspiration led me to set out to meet the 'Heart of the Navy', those who shared my desire for a world in harmony, where dolphins and whales could be part of it, and a world where we had finally gone beyond the perceived need to have so much war. Tears come again as I write, as I note certain birth rates have already started to decline. Til then most members of the public at these meetings were upset about the actions of the Navy and the sonar and stranding deaths that were in the news and the fact that they were here in Hawaii at all. They zero heard the other side of the story. I had to keep focused on my purpose. Meet the Heart. Go from there. Within minutes of coming in I'd found some of their presenters and shared my purpose. They felt our openness to them, our willingness to hear them. To my amazement they expressed a similar desire, in ways much like mine. They directed me to colleagues and brought me over to meet them. We shared common reference points, impactful books we'd read, stories about dolphins and whales. My heart was beaming for my prayer was being answered by those who heard it - I'd met the 'Heart of the Navy', locally, commander and staff of the Pacific Missile Range Facility, the largest in the world. We had so much in common above all. We each felt accepted, heard and understood. The connection was so strong that when we went to visit them the next month, the earth I'd felt till the night we met, was actualized as we stayed just miles down the road from PMRF the night before and as the earth quaked on Big Island, it was shaking the house where we were. We were given a grand tour of the base and saw special nests for sea birds that preserved their habitat, and turtles and met with the staff and commander. We heard whales in their sound room, met the techies and learned what happened there. Hearing and watching the effort and caring that was expressed and details about what they do was a game changer. We had some sense of what goes on there from the inside. This connection was solidified the following year when the November 2007 Mayoral Proclamation for Domestic Harmony Awareness Month was given a home in the Gate House where visitors from around the world were able to read its inspiring words, pick up our neon green ribbon and a 'Just Say Yes to Domestic Harmony' bumper sticker. The following article was written up in the PMRF base newsletter, Within Range, Vol.4, No. 2. Domestic Harmony Erupting across Hawai'i Island and Neighbor Islands "PlanetPuna," is pleased to announce for the first time in the eight year history of the Domestic Harmony Awareness Initiative, proclamations have been secured from the mayors of Hawai'i, Maui, Kauai and O'ahu. They can be seen on www.planetpuna.com. O r g a n i z e r S t a r Newland says, 'We are developing an outreach program around the theme of 'domestic harmony erupting.' We speak of eruptions of violence or war as in 'more</p>

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		<p>violence erupted in this area today'. We want to encourage people to know that harmony can erupt too and they can reach out one to another to create more. Officials from PMRF met Star Newland during EIS proceedings, and a partnership for Domestic Harmony was formed. "When the United States Navy gets behind Domestic Harmony you know we are on to something" Newland said. "Our desire is to see programs made available across the Navy and other types of armed services to help those who serve our country." Neon green ribbons, representing 'new life and new beginnings' and as a symbol for domestic harmony, are available from the PMRF Public Affairs Office. Look for more Domestic Harmony information in the near future. The proclamation from the next mayor is there too. PMRF Barking Sands are our partners in Domestic Harmony, with letters of support from two commanders and visits to meet them when I'm on island. Through our developing relationship and especially through the work of our liaison Tom Clements, Public Affairs Officer, who said "... I can appreciate even more that you and Michael have made the effort to listen ..." we went on to do more and continued to meet them whenever we could. We were given a copy of their humpback whale songs for our Earth Fair, 2010, which were then played for the first time at an Earth Day event. This week, Thursday June 14, 2012, we will meet them again in Hilo for a meeting, to collect public comment on the draft Navy EIS which is proposing the continuation of training and testing in the Hawaiian Islands and Southern California and is analyzing the potential impact on the environment as part of their mandate to protect the people, the waters, the world. I have another idea. Let's work with them to help turn around our global birthing crisis. Let's encourage them to help by attending Michel's conference, let them be aware that they can have proactive part in restoring harmony to the world by helping their moms, who give birth under their auspices have the opportunity to make the world a better place by reconnecting the act of birth to the mom and her new one. Let's have them experience dolphins before and maybe at birth. Later too. Let's them help fulfill part of their humanitarian Mission Statement by restoring the Grace of Birth. This letter is being sent to the current Commander. Aloha Captain Mongillo, June 20, 2012 as the sun rises</p> <p>I want to thank you for your warm welcome Thursday night at the meeting to collect public data for the draft EIS. It left me beaming. As always we learn much when we attend these and get to reconnect with our PMRF Pod. This time I got to hear about the children of your staff who are in the Navy and the consciousness they bring with them, the tradition and pride of being part of the Navy. You guys are so amazing. Mahalo nui loa. Mahalo for offering a letter of support for Domestic Harmony for our 13th Anniversary this November. I will proudly show it at many events and of course it will join yours and Captain Aaron Cudnohufsky's earlier ones on www.planetpuna.com. One of my most special 'accomplishments' has been this relationship with our partners at Barking Sands. You truly take it to heart, along with others of your staff, especially Tom Clements, who has been our liaison across the 3 commands since we met with Captain Mark Darrah. For this I am very thankful. As we are partners to bring about more Domestic Harmony Awareness and PMRF is the home of Mayor Baptiste and Mayor Carvalho's Domestic Harmony proclamations, I am sharing the most recent proclamation from Mayor Bernard Carvalho proclaiming May 2010 Gentle Birth Month. As with nearly all of our requests for resolutions and proclamations there is reference to domestic harmony and its importance. It is known with absolute certainty that what a child experiences before birth, during birth and after birth profoundly influences that child and its life, thereafter. And of course the life of everyone it touches. This is how important this period of time is. As we are met at birth, the world will meet us and we will meet it. First impressions are so critical. This is why in our work we seek to bring about more gentle maternal environments, birth, including with water and dolphins, as you know, and to help provide more optimal mammalian upbringing, as in the Pod Project. (www.planetpuna.com/thepodproject). The Pod Project is being developed as well to help reconnect our returning veterans back to home life and back to society as valued members of our communities. It has already been introduced to the Hawaii Island Going Home Consortium, a group dedicated to helping our returning inmates successfully return home. It's easy to see there are similar issues involved</p>

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		<p>in these two populations. As you know the suicide rate for veterans is higher. The inclusive nature of the pod spreads the caring across many who have some comfort, kindness to offer. This work, including birthing and early childhood development is important to help assure the children have a good start in life and grow up more resilient, calm, centered, harmonious, connected to life and respectful of life. These are valued qualities we would wish to preserve and perpetuate. My dear friend, mentor and colleague, Dr. Michel Odent, leading global obstetrician is holding the Mid-Pacific Conference FROM THE NEOLITHIC CATAclysm TO THE HONOLULU GREAT WAKE-UP CALL on Birth, on O’ahu, October 26 to 28. As he states: In the current scientific context – particularly in the age of primal health research and epigenetics – one can theoretically indicate what were the most effective ways to influence the development - and the transmission from generation to generation - of certain human traits: it was to interfere in “critical periods of development”. Where the potential for aggression, and inversely the capacity to love, are concerned, it appears that the period surrounding birth is critical. This is how one can interpret the evolutionary advantages of the numerous beliefs and rituals that have been widespread for thousands of years. Their main common effects have been to amplify the difficulties of human births, to separate mother and newborn baby, and to delay the initiation of breastfeeding. This is probably how Homo sapiens became “Homo superpredator”. This is where the importance of gentle birth practices along with suckling right away and keeping baby with mother contributes to domestic harmony. Establishing a more grounded physiology from birth enables us to withstand and cope more effectively with life and bypass the side effects of our often traumatic Western style birth. It helps us be more resilient in the face of big change or traumatic experiences, our own or witnessed. The new strategy of the U.S. Navy to proactively prevent conflict (we’d sculpt to: proactively encourage harmonious relations) can be helped a long way when we start with: The easier our children are to be with the more likely their caregivers will be easier on them. This comes directly through the birth experiences. This helps address the epidemic of child and sexual abuse, overuse of drugs and alcohol to self-medicate, suicides and domestic violence across the world. Research shows when we treat children well they do better, which seems to be an obvious way to counteract ‘radical ideologies’. The competition for water and energy can be countered by the new human who by virtue of this ‘new birth’ has an earth connection and is going to use and need things differently. As well, be part of the global village or ‘The Super pod’ writ large and all that means As you are a commander in the United States Navy, I am writing to ask how the Navy, as part of its Humanitarian undertakings can help address the points in this proclamation and facilitate how these areas will be addressed. To further this I invite you and other members of your staff at PMRF and those at Pearl Harbor to meet Dr. Michel Odent and his coordinator Dr. Heloisa Lassa when they come to Hawaii to finalize details for the conference. As to our comments on this Draft EIS, we respectfully request that in whatever ways you can express our concerns for the wellbeing of our People of the Sea, you offer them on our behalf. As the articles in the Hawaii Tribune-Herald June 6 & 7th point out there are many more deaths through fishing nets and lines, pollution, toxins, dead zones, off shore seismic testing and so on. We know this, of course. We have learned first- hand of your efforts in extra mitigation and being super mindful through our visits to PMRF and appreciate the work done. Shifting the dates of these exercises to times and locations when the waters are largely empty of Cetacea in numbers would be a Miracle, leaving them to breed and calve in relative security. Surely with all the sophisticated technology at the Navy’s finger tips a way can be found to keep the ships and their trainings with live fire and sonar well away from these makamae (precious) Global Treasures, each and every one of them. On Behalf of the Cetacean Commonwealth, Star Newland Domestic Harmony Awareness*Action Initiative www.planetpuna.com Thanks to them I’ll be sharing this chapter this week as my testimony. Christian Science Monitor says, “There’s far more value in a navy when it’s preventing wars as a force for good.” Star Sculpts “There’s Far More Value In A Navy That’s Promoting Harmony.” We’ll see how it goes. Meanwhile I’m holding out for this, my Hawaii Sustainability 2050 Progress Report for the Cetacean-Human Interspecies Sustainable Community.</p>

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		<p>Progress Report from the Committee on the Cetacean-Human Interspecies Sustainable Community for the Sustainability 2050 Summit 2007 September 17, 2007: "I think if you are comfortable in saying: "we are in discussion with Navy officials..." then it is okay."</p> <p>- Tom Clements Looking back from 2050 and what we have to do today to achieve that future led me to call to PAO Tom Clements (above) at PMRF, on Kauai regarding a motion picture. Here is the future we envision and are working towards as our contribution to the State of Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Summit 2007. We are in discussion to enter into agreement (Navy and dolphins along with Cetacean Commonwealth) that will enable us to proceed with a few projects: like the R&R or retirement plan for veteran dolphins, retiring from their tours of duty and able to work with rehabilitating veterans and to participate with our interspecies birth cohort - human babies born with, spend some time with and a part of dolphin life, resulting in a communications breakthrough. When this line of research develops consistent communications between our species, then a whole new kind of world view and reality becomes possible. WE have, especially in the last year since this Committee took form, made contact and are working with a number of partners, associates and helpers who have parts to play in the design and running of such a place. A global centre of harmony comes about through our deepening relationship with Cetacea and the waters which we regenerate and repopulate as well as keep clean and quiet, and especially for the People who are now being birthed and raised gently, in human and dolphin pod environments. And the aina which is tended sustainably, with ample fresh water provided by our own technology, renewable energy (renewable - "free +renewable"), and other needed advances. We are looking at four potential sites around the island to break ground in creating this community; we are working with kupuna and living treasures of the Hawaiian culture to perpetuate this way of being more connected to the waters through our birth. Much ground work has already been laid. Funds are coming together to acquire land and to create the community. A major motion picture, now in preproduction, depicting this progression, is a perfect way to create the program, accomplish what we can, and educate the world of this connection between our peoples, Human and Cetacea. All of this could come about and be facilitated through this new level of cooperation and collaboration between us and the Navy, thereby putting the Navy in a very good position in peoples' minds, genuinely so. Somewhere along the way we would be able to ultimately put an end to the sonar issue and maybe even war. What could make us more sustainable than that our planetary resources could be turned to good use, our people living well and thriving because they are raised and tended so each reaches their potential? In The Voice of the Dolphins by Leo Szilard, the dolphins help America and Russia get past the Cold War. It would be a worthy outcome of this project to accomplish the same for modern times and help restore harmony to the planet. In the Spirit of Aloha, Star Newland on Behalf of the Cetacean Commonwealth Puna, Hawai'i September 21, 2007 Postscript: This picture is worth thousands of words ... This one is too. I'm pinning the Domestic Harmony ribbon on Captain NickMongillo, Commander PMRF, Barking Sands, Kauai. And our friend Mark Matsunaga, Environmental Public Affairs Officer committed to bring word of the birth conference and our meeting back to Pearl Harbor with a copy of 'A Primer on Language Sculpting' to the Admiral along with ribbons and bumper stickers. All in all, it was one of the most special experiences of my life. Having all the staff with us for the photo op and feeling the goodwill from friends old and new was heartening. I know they have our best interests at heart, including our oceans and the life we hold so precious in them, our kin, the Cetacea, dolphins and whales. Pps. Mahalo to Tom who sent this further clarity about the terms and numbers and information about the figures in this EIS. The issue of takes, and the difficulty of explaining what they mean and why there are higher numbers in this EIS document, can require pages to fully explain. Almost 100 percent of the takes are behavioral -- for instance, if you and I were walking down the beach, and we caused a sand crab to move to another spot, that could be a "take" by this definition. We also have injurious (Level A) takes being requested, as well as mortalities for marine mammals, so we include that, but we also characterize only some takes as Level A and zero suggest these injurious takes represent the Navy's</p>

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		purpose for this EIS. Or as Conrad explained to me, the activities we have been doing for decades are much the same and what has changed is that now we are accounting for all activities and in all areas (like pierside) which we had yet to think we should do in the first EIS (things have evolved). The "increase" is from a variety of factors but includes that we are counting differently this time than last time so it is less than accurate to characterize this as an increase in takes. We are the 100% ... Including the Navy.
Nickerson	Tonya	Dear Navy People, PLEASE stop the testing of sonar weaponry in the waters of the Pacific, which are already contaminated with radioactivity from the Japanese meltdown. We still have so much to learn from the dolphins and whales, their methods of communication and language. These creatures are incredibly intelligent and an important part of the Hawaiian culture. People come here to swim with them and learn from them, and you want to knowingly attack them with your "testing" and "training" for war. How is it ok to wage war against other intelligent life forms and not be charged with murder? Where are the boundaries for the rules of war on this one? What kind of morality conversation was had in which it was decided that THOUSANDS of animals would be seriously injured and killed EVERY TIME you "test" your equipment. It's not too late. You can stop this. Let's stop killing ourselves, each other, our home planet. I really like the beaches here in Hawaii, let's not cover them with the carcasses of dead animals. Thank you for remembering your humanity.
Niklasson	Johan	I appreciate your willingness to hearing the public opinion on this important matter. Seeing the research that has been done on this and the dramatic effect previous test have had on marine life I am frankly chocked that you are even considering going ahead with this. Please do not pursue this project I fear that it will have a very negative impact on marine life! It seems to me that there already is much research to support my stand point.
Normandin	Joshua	Don't commit murder.
Novak	Samantha	To whom it may concern, Please protect marine mammals from explosives and sonar along the coasts of California and Hawaii. I urge you to re-think the proposed plans for the use of sonar and explosives, and to incorporate additional protective measures. Thank you for your consideration, Samantha Novak
Novello	Jason	Please do not continue with this testing program/exercise. There are numerous studies that show this is damaging to marine mammal life. We here in Hawaii and on the west coast depend on these animals and the tourist revenue they bring to us. By hurting them, you are hurting the welfare of thousands of Americans. Furthermore, you damage the global life web. The oceans account for 3/4 of the planet's surface. There is no way that you can cause damage to it without a ripple of effects spreading outward from it.
Nuccio	Theresa	I opposed the use of sonar training and testing a few years ago at the Whidbey Island site here in Washington State. I am opposed to the use of this technology in the waters near Hawaii and California as well. These are the same whale populations! The Navy certainly has this information about the annual migration of these mammals for feeding and birthing all along the Pacific Coast of the U.S. I am also opposed to the use of sonar in the Gulf of Mexico, for similar reasons. In addition to the whale populations other mammals, such as dolphins, will be affected. Thank you for your time and attention.
Nunez	Saul	Please discontinue the exercises planned. They are harmful to our marine wildlife.
O'Brien	Carolyn	The U.S. Navy is proposing to conduct training exercises that involve explosives and high intensity sonar all along the U.S. East Coast and in the rich marine environment off the coast of California and Hawaii. The planned exercises would kill up to 2,000 marine mammals, including a large number of animals from endangered species, such as right whales. Thousands of others would suffer permanent lung damage. An additional 16,000 would be permanently deafened and 5 million would be temporarily deafened by the exercises. Please consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. Please avoid the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors. Avoid seasonal high-use feeding areas. Create a larger "safety zone" around the exercises. Use aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. These steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that

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		whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. Whales, dolphins, and porpoises deserve to live and to have a healthy ocean environment. You can make this happen. Please take these steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals.
O'Bryan	Leigh	As a California citizen (and an animal lover) I urge you to please rethink your SONAR plans to include protective measures to prevent killing or deafening marine mammals. Thank you in advance for considering incorporating compassion into practice. For the animals, Leigh O'Bryan Sherman Oaks, CA
O'Dowd	Lynn	I understand the need for protecting our country, but we can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures. Please protect marine mammals from explosives and sonar.
Ognjanovic	Michelle	The Navy's use of sonar in the fragile Whale and dolphin habitats is an antagonist. It is driving the mammals away from their habitats, disrupting their families, and it is causing changes in all their habits, not least many of them are being driven to distraction and beaching themselves on purpose or accidentally. The sonar must respectfully stop in these fragile habitats, our natural resources are equally vital to our country's legacy and these mammals are sentient beings.
O'Halloran	Kevin	Please stop harming dolphins and whales. The Navy's work is important, but please find a way to protect our natural heritage. We should be stewards of the ocean.
O'Keefe`	Eugene	Do NOT do this. Do NOT do this. Do NOT do this.
Olson	Scott	I urge the Navy to not test your sonar or conduct war games in Hawaii or California territories because of the harm this will cause marine life. Our marine species are already under stress from all forms of pollution in the ocean. It's time to conduct ourselves in a way that supports a healthy marine environment rather than degradade it. Dominion means to take care of not dominate... so far most humans have done a very good job of dominating and causing harm to other species including ourselves. Now it is time to be caretakers of all our marvelous life forms. Humans need to stop thinking only about themselves. I have been interacting with Cetaceans for 23 years and know they are an intelligent aware social species that deserves to live in peace. They have much more to share with us than their blubber on a dinner table or to be in the way of target practice for sonar guns. I have written a book, Messages From The Dolphins. It includes my insights on five subjects and what I would say to humans if I was a dolphin. Chapter four is about war. Please take the time to read it. Hopefully you will realize that for the sake of all our species not just humans we humans need to begin living peacefully with each other. It is available as an ebook at my website www.dolphinssmile.org Thank you for taking the time to read this comment. In Peace, Scott
Olson-Tuma	Lynn	Please protect our marine wildlife and do not conduct this testing, US Navy.
O'Neil	Patty	I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of

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		reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans.
Oordenaar	J.T.	I am very concerned about the effects of sonar on marine life, and especially Cetaceans (dolphins, whales). Here's why: Cetaceans' brain as a matter of fact contain spindle cells, the type of cell in humans responsible for giving us complex speech, strong emotions and empathy. In whales and dolphins the concentration of these was even found to be 3x as high as humans. Above that, their brains are a lot bigger. (source: http://www.newscientist.com/article/dn10661-whales-boast-the-brain-cells-that-make-us-human.html) There is more than just anatomic evidence. Dolphins are also self aware; cetaceans are the only species apart from humans that can think about thinking, and possessing self-awareness. (source: http://news.discovery.com/animals/dolphins-smarter-brain-function.html) Luckily, people now try to decipher their languages, hoping to verbally communicate with them. (source: http://news.discovery.com/animals/dolphin-talk-communication-humans-110906.html) Other recent researches state cetaceans have cultures, their own names, accents, dialects, can teach each other, and deserve rights as non-human persons. All research aimed at investigating the effects of sonar on marine mammals show the same conclusions: Significant damage to internal organs Severe hearing damage Known cause of cetacean mass strandings Please reconsider your navy testing policies and plans, now with scientific knowledge in mind. Thank you. J.T. Oordenaar
Orr	Michele	Hello, I know we need defense, but it must not be at the expense of important marine life. The pain the creatures feel from these tests must be excruciating and a slow painful death. I believe we must evolve past this type of testing, can we not? Thank you, Michele Orr
Ottgeraldo	Gerald	With all the research DARPA does, I sincerely believe that the Navy needs to work on a better solution than using sonar that damages more of our mammal marine life. It has taken 40 years for the humpback whale to make a comeback from near extinction to ONLY reach the designation of "endangered" species. There is research on the damage to dolphins and whales hearing and the disorientation leading to death and serious injury of mammal marine life due to the SONAR used by the Navy - in the U.S. and the U.K. Stranding, beachings, confusion and fear cause whales to stop feeding and subsequently die. The UK military has research from 2007 that clearly indicates there are issues with sonar in causing death to whales and that in 2011 additional research conducted by a team of international scientists has confirmed the earlier research. We have some of the best scientists in the world working on these issues and still, this issue continues to plague us in finding a better solution. The NAVY should re-evaluate it's plans, establish a timeline and a plan for alternatives, expedite research on better tools than SONAR, and start to more fully balance the military need in the context of damage to the ocean environment. It is unconscionable that the U.S. Navy would expand the damage to the marine environment by simplistically justifying it's actions by creating fear in the public. It requires leadership to take a more thorough and thoughtful approach. I respectfully submit, having been a public servant, that there are always alternatives that can be examined, and in this case, should be considered to mitigate the loss of marine mammal life.
Overman	Mary	Dear Sirs: I have read through much of the EIS and will continue until I finish it, but I don't see any strong effort made to consider alternative testing and training methods that would not entail the assured death or deafness of marine mammals. I hope the choice you are making - the one that DOES assure death or deafness - is unquestionably the ONLY way to properly test and train, and not that it is simply the most expedient. Please consider providing an extension to your comment period as well. The size and technical aspects of the EIS require a great deal of time to read and review, especially for folks with more than one job and with other responsibilities who also have a strong interest in marine ecology. Thank you for your consideration.
Owen	Jeanette	What is this world coming to? Why do you have to destroy marine life, for someone's thought to "better" our security? It's sick.
Oyarzabal	Tamara	Please do NOT conduct any training and testing that involves the deafening or harming of any marine life. Respect these magnificent, sentient beings and conduct

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		yourselves in a dignified way as is expected of the US Navy.
Padawer	David	The devastating impact on marine mammals of sonar testing must be stopped. How many creatures have to be maimed or killed before the navy takes its responsibility to protect not destroy the oceans seriously?
Pagano	Adriana	I wish to encourage to US Navy to take further steps to protect marine mammals during sonar testing. Steps including avoiding migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed would all minimize death and injury to these mammals. Americans including myself prize our marine mammals and I cannot stress enough that no measure to protect them is unwarranted. Thank you for your consideration.
Painter	Kirsten	Please do not test along the west coasts in such a way as to harm marine life. Thank you.
Pambianco	Barbara	There's something REALLY wrong with this: If you haven't done so already, today is the deadline to comment on the U.S. Navy's Environmental Impact Statement for training and testing in the ocean around Hawaii and California during the next five years. You can easily comment at their online site: http://hstteis.com/GetInvolved/OnlineCommentForm.aspx The Navy's report states that the exercises could cause 1,600 marine mammals to suffer from hearing loss or other injury from its use of sonar and explosives each year for the next five years. The report also projects that 200 marine mammals will die each year. Please speak up on behalf of whales and dolphins now. Do we civvies really need to comment about how awful this is? Come on yall..we all have to Live here together. Please stop this madness. FYI:I'm a former Navy brat so THANKS FOR YOUR SERVICE...but PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE don't do this!
Parr	Michelle	I understand that the U.S. Navy is proposing to conduct training exercises all along the U.S. East Coast and in the rich marine environment off the coast of California and Hawaii. These exercises would involve the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. According to your own Environmental Impact Statements, the estimates show the planned exercises would kill up to 2,000 marine mammals, including a large number of animals from endangered species, such as right whales. Thousands of others would suffer permanent lung damage. An additional 16,000 would be permanently deafened and 5 million would be temporarily deafened by the exercises. I completely understand the need for protecting our country, but there is a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures. There is evidence that in the past, whales have stranded and died in the wake of major military sonar exercises, with bleeding from the ears and other tissue damage attributed to sonar. These have included incidents of beaked whales dying in the Canary Islands following sonar exercises, the panicked flight of orcas and porpoises off Washington State in 2003, and dozens of whales (including pregnant females) from several species who died in North Carolina in 2005. These tragedies can be avoided to a very significant degree. Please consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. Please re-think your plans and incorporate additional protective measures. Thank you.
Parrish	Amy	I am against your impending sonar research which may, by your own admission, deafen and kill potentially thousands of dolphins and whales off the coasts of California and Hawaii. I ask that you put an end to this inhumane and unconscionable Naval program and look for alternative, more humane ways of testing your sonar equipment.
Patterson	Dianne	PLEASE PLEASE protect marine life from explosives and sonar in Navy and all exercises. This is unnecessary.
Pendarvis	Richard	As a citizen, I am very concerned about Navy activities which might impact marine life, particularly dolphins and whales. HSUS is joining other environmental and

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		animal welfare groups to ask the Navy to consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. Thanks, Richard Pendarvis, Ph.D. (Chemistry)
Pennington	Ruth	to whom is going to read this, I do NOT see the true reason to do these excersises. To thoughtlessly KILL and Injure ALL those animals for practice... REALLY? i would one day like to have my daughter and her kids know what marine life is... doing such training excersises that will hurt and kill animals on the endanger spieces list will further hinder our oceans and our future generations from enjoying the rich life they support. the whalers around the world atleast kill to eat the poor animals... not just for the heck of it... i understand the Navy HAS TO do somethings but the wildlife in the oceans around the US are still trying to come back from the BP oil spill that was now 2 yrs ago. i doubt we need dead animals washing up on our shores AGAIN! This is NOT ok and i dont support these actions the US military are willing to take in order to just have drills... there are so many species in the ocean and if we as people are wreckless we will never even get to see and explore them. we only know 2% of what there is to know about our oceans. this is just wrong and as a millitary i will always support our troops BUT I DONT HAVE TO SUPPORT THE ACTIONS THE US GOVERNMENT MAKES THE TROOPS DO! I hope this reaches someone who can help stop this from happening. my daughter is 4. she started to cry as i read to her what the US NAVY wants to do. EVEN A 4 YR OLD KNOWS ITS WRONG! i am writting this as a plea from my heart and the heart of my daughter, PLEASE DONT DO IT! PLEASE HELP TO PROTECT THESE ANIMALS AND NOT DO THINGS SUCH AS TRAINING EXCERSISES THAT WILL ONLY FURTHER HURT THEM. Thank you.
Perez	Mariana	PLEASE protect marine mammals from explosives and sonar.. Protect our oceans and all living things. I have witnessed in person what the effects of submarine sonar testing has done to marine life and it's a horrible things to see and horrible that it is happening! PLEASE STOP and PROTECT OUR OCEANS AND MARINE LIFE. Thank you.
Perez	Michelle	I would like to ask the Navy to consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. We know that in the past, whales have stranded and died in the wake of major military sonar exercises, with bleeding from the ears and other tissue damage attributed to sonar. These have included incidents of beaked whales dying in the Canary Islands following sonar exercises, the panicked flight of orcas and porpoises off Washington State in 2003, and dozens of whales (including pregnant females) from several species who died in North Carolina in 2005. These tragedies can be avoided to a very significant degree.
Perkins	Colleen	To preserve our freedom is to preserve our planet and all the life it contains. This test is meaningless, murderous, and unnecessary. The idea that my military and my government would allow such a disastrous test makes me ashamed to be an American. There is no benefit that could possibly outweigh the cost – not only to the environment, but to the reputation of this country.
Perry	Virginia	Whales, dolphins, and porpoises deserve to live and to have a healthy ocean environment. The U.S. Navy is proposing to conduct training exercises all along the U.S. East Coast and in the rich marine environment off the coast of California and Hawaii. These exercises would involve the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. According to its own Environmental Impact Statements, the Navy estimates that the planned exercises would kill up to 2,000 marine mammals, including a large number of animals from endangered species, such as right whales.

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		<p>Thousands of others would suffer permanent lung damage. An additional 16,000 would be permanently deafened and 5 million would be temporarily deafened by the exercises. I understand the need for protecting our country, but we can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures. In the past, whales have stranded and died in the wake of major military sonar exercises, with bleeding from the ears and other tissue damage attributed to sonar. These have included incidents of beaked whales dying in the Canary Islands following sonar exercises, the panicked flight of orcas and porpoises off Washington State in 2003, and dozens of whales (including pregnant females) from several species who died in North Carolina in 2005. These tragedies can be avoided to a very significant degree. Consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. Re-think plans and incorporate additional protective measures.</p>
Peter	Rob	<p>I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.</p>
Peterson	Ava	<p>July 10, 2012 Public Comment: U.S. Navy Hawaii-Southern California Range Expansion To: U.S. Secretary of the Navy-Ray Mabus The Honorable President Barack Obama Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Southwest Attention: HSTT EIS/OEIS Project Manager – EV21.CS 1220 Pacific Highway, Building 1, Floor 3 San Diego, CA 92132-5190 I find myself, at the age of 97, having worked to establish many environmental protections for our oceans and our natural resources, wondering what the future will be for my children, grandson, and great grandchildren. In a short time the U.S. Navy and other branches of the military have begun destroying millions of marine mammals, ocean habitats, coral reefs...and so much more in the Pacific, Atlantic, and the Gulf of Mexico. The land and ocean world that our elected officials, the U.S. Department of Commerce, (NOAA & NMFS), and the various branches of our military, have elected to destroy with "shock and Awe" methods using military weapons of all kinds...including new weapons systems and atmospheric testing, is stunning in scope. There are no words to describe the carnage that already has been put into action...and worse yet...the carnage yet to come is almost incomprehensible. "Our military officers took an oath to uphold the U.S. Constitution which does not state that the military</p>

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		<p>has the right to destroy the Earth in the name of war practice." And yet today, the sonarizing, bombing, new weapons and atmospheric testing by the military is destroying the Earth in the name of "conducting war practice" and physics experiments. Our military is conducting illegal satellite and drone surveillance on all of us...killing people with drones...stating that everyone is guilty until proven innocent of the charges, whether inside or outside of the United States, in violation of our U.S. Constitution and laws. It seems that if someone is now killed by a drone they still have to prove, while dead, to the U.S. that they were innocent whether American citizens or not...whether a child or an adult. This violates the principle that we have lived by, under the U.S. Constitution, laws, and our Bill of Rights, which states that everyone is innocent until proven guilty. The military and our elected officials have set themselves up to play "GOD", judge and jury. What happens when their next victim is you? When the police or homeland security, the military, shoots you down and later finds that you were innocent but now dead? No amount of guilt money can bring you back or reverse the decision. Now the U.S. Navy and other branches of our military have decided to play "GOD" with the Earth and its bounty of natural resources. Why? It is a good way to financially bankrupt the U.S. with perpetual war and war costs. (One day we will have to hire the U.S. Navy to repair our roads since their war practice is reducing domestic spending.) War practice is a good way to enrich those that produce weapons of war and keep the free enterprise market going through the U.S. selling war weapons to other countries making us less safe in the bargain. I once spoke to a sailor and I asked him if the U.S. decided that my trying to save 11.7 million marine mammals from war practice and weapons testing got me arrested by our U.S. government, for being outspoken, if he would rescue me for exercising my free speech rights under the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights? He stood mute... What will this sailor tell his family, his children and grandchildren in his later years about his role in this destruction? There is a question for all of us: What will you tell your family and children about why you stood mute and let this happen? The best that I can say is that I stand today against this war practice horror to be perpetuated against our oceans and the Earth. There is no reason or excuse for this destruction to be unleashed against the Earth. The U.S. Navy can do better...they can protect our natural resources and protect those that have no voice...I stand here today as one voice for our oceans, as one voice who speaks for the whales and other marine life who have no voice, and as the Earth's voice to say "NO" more destruction in the name of war practice for perpetual wars. Sincerely, Ava Peterson</p>
Peterson	Ava	<p>July 10, 2012 RE: U.S. Navy Hawaii-Southern CA Proposed Range Complex - Public Comment Perchlorate is a rocket fuel component and by-product of rocket and missile testing; it also can accumulate in leafy food crops and fruit irrigated by perchlorate-contaminated water and can find its way into food crops from air pollution sources. Perchlorate accumulates in the thyroid gland and can block iodide transfer into the thyroid, resulting in iodine deficiency. Adequate iodide is crucial for neurological development. A recent study found that all types of powdered baby formula (e.g., milk, soy) are contaminated with perchlorate. If perchlorate also is in tap water used to mix the formula, babies may be doubly dosed with the chemical. Long-term exposure to perchlorate has been shown to induce thyroid cancer in rats and mice. The U.S. Navy and the U.S. Air Force uses perchlorate as a fuel in rocket and missile testing in the proposed NWTT Range Complex. What impact will perchlorate from this type of testing have on human health, air pollution, sailors exposed to these chemicals, marine mammals, and the air quality on shoreline communities? Rocket and missile fuel emissions also contain aluminum oxide and particles of soot. What impact do these emissions have on the ocean environment, marine mammals, and general air pollution over these areas and on shoreline communities? When you combine Jet fuel emissions, rocket and missile emissions, warship emissions, laser test emissions all together how will all of them impact human health, ocean air quality, and shoreline community air quality?</p>
Peterson	Ava	<p>July 10, 2012 RE: U.S. Navy Hawaii-Southern California Range Public Comments: 1) If any hazardous materials wash ashore during the next 5 years the Navy should be responsible for cleanup and disposal of all materials at Navy expense. How much money has the U.S. Navy allocated for this type of clean up and disposal? 2)</p>

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		<p>If disruptions in fishing, availability of fish, impact local fisherman the Navy should be required to reimburse the fishing fleet in the NWTRC, the Hawaii Range Complex, the Mariana Range Complex, the Southern CA Range Complex for their economic losses. (This would include the ocean tourism industry.) How much money has the U.S. Navy allocated for any economic losses from their 5-Year Warfare testing in these areas and the proposed NWTT and Hawaii-Southern CA Range complex expansions? 3) The Navy should be required to cleanup and restore ocean and shoreline areas where natural resources have been negatively impacted and also where regional wildlife have been affected by all NWTRC, NWTT, Mariana Islands, and the Southern CA warfare exercises. How much money has the U.S. Navy allocated for this purpose? How much additional funding will be needed for the Hawaii-Southern CA Range Expansion? 4) Military operations in the NWTRC 5-Year Warfare Testing Exercises include deployment of sonar which may impact marine mammals, fish, and other marine life. Effective mitigation measures (with 90% success in studies), should be used to locate marine mammal populations before deployment of sonar, toxic chemicals, bomb blasts, missile exercises, and new weapons testing. What mitigation measures are planned for the Hawaii-Southern CA Range Complex? 5) All maritime military training range complexes in the Pacific Ocean, especially the NWTRC, the Southern California Range Complex, and the Hawaii and Mariana Islands Range Complexes should have as a primary goal maintaining healthy oceans, marine, shoreline and beach environments that are economic fishing and tourism drivers. How much money is the U.S. Navy allocating for this purpose? Please advise on how many ranges have had this type of restoration work performed when military activities and toxic chemicals have damaged ocean or shoreline areas in the Pacific Ocean Range Complex Areas? What is the monetary allocation for yearly restoration work in the NWTT and the Hawaii-Southern CA Range Expansion areas?</p>
Peterson	Ava	<p>July 10, 2012 U.S. Navy NEPA Public Comment – for Hawaii-Southern CA Range Complex New U.S. Navy New Sonar Systems have been deployed and we don't know the marine mammal effects from those experiments. http://www.navy.mil/search/display.asp?story_id=48201 WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The U.S. Navy took delivery of the next generation of the AN/AQS-20A Minehunting Sonar and the AN/AQS-235 Airborne Mine Neutralization System (AMNS) from Raytheon Company at the company's facility in Tewksbury, Mass. Sept. 2, 2009. September 4, 2009: "...Scientists at the Naval Research Laboratory are developing a new technology for use in underwater acoustics. The new technology uses flashes of laser light to remotely create underwater sound. The new acoustic source has the potential to expand and improve both Naval and commercial underwater acoustic applications, including undersea communications, navigation, and acoustic imaging. Dr. Ted Jones, a physicist in the Plasma Physics Division, is leading a team of researchers from the Plasma Physics, Acoustics, and Marine Geosciences Divisions in developing this acoustic source..." http://www.nrl.navy.mil/pao/pressRelease.php?Y=2009&R=63-09r We can expect that these new techniques will be or have been deployed and could have negative consequences on our marine mammals. There are inadequate or non-existent studies by NOAA (NMFS), service about the impacts of these new technologies and their impacts on fish and marine mammals. Thus, the deployment of these technologies in the NWTRC and other ranges should be prohibited. http://djcoregon.com/news/2010/05/13/wave-energy-device-would-steer-whales-away/ WAVE Energy Acoustic devices are also being deployed in the oceans which may have a similar impact on the health of our whales. According to this May 13, 2010, Oregon News article: "...Gray whales tend to stick close to shore to avoid predation by killer whales, which travel in deeper waters. So, gray whales will be traveling through prime real estate for the wave energy-generating buoys...Mate in December will place an acoustic device on a mooring near Newport. The device emits a low, one-second "whoop" sound three times a minute during a six-hour stretch each day. The hope is that the sound, which is about as noisy as a fisherman's fish radar device, would act as a whale deterrent. A \$600,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Energy is funding the study..." May 13, 2010 They will be deployed in Oregon by the end of 2010. The problem is that this could disrupt</p>

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		<p>the feeding and migration of our gray whales and also add to the acoustic problems in our oceans. And this device could be deployed along the California Coastline as well. Combined with the U.S. Navy planned expansion and use of sonar this could be a disaster for our gray whales and other marine mammals. The U.S. Navy should take into consideration in their proposed Hawaii-Southern CA Range Expansion other sources of sonar when used in conjunction with Navy Sonar in the NWTRC, the Gulf of Alaska, and the Mariana Range complexes, along with the proposed NWTT range. Acoustic Impacts on Marine Life Marsha L Green, PhD For references and citations contact info@oceanmammalinst.org "...In the past decade a dismaying sequence of marine mammal strandings has occurred in Greece (1996), the Bahamas (2000), Madeira (2000), Vieques (1998, 2002), the Canary Islands (2002, 2004), the northwest coast of the U.S. (2003) and Hawaii (2004). Each stranding has been correlated with the use of high intensity military sonar. These sonars – both low -frequency (LFAS) and mid - frequency can have a source level of 240 db, which is one trillion times louder than the sounds whales have been shown to avoid. One scientist analyzing underwater acoustic data reported that a single low frequency sonar signal deployed off the coast of California could be heard over the entire North Pacific Ocean. Necropsies performed on whales stranded in the Bahamas (2000) and the Canary Islands (2002) revealed hemorrhaging around the brain and in other organs most likely due to acoustic trauma from the use of high intensity sonar. It appears that the sonar exercise in the Bahamas in 2000 may have decimated the entire population of beaked whales in the area. In December 2004, 169 whales and dolphins died on beaches in Australia and New Zealand after reported military exercises and air gun use in the area. In January, 2005, 37 whales stranded on the U.S. coast of North Carolina after high intensity sonar was used in a naval exercise. In March, 2005 almost 80 dolphins stranded on the U.S. coast in Florida after the acknowledged use of naval sonar. Though still too recent to link definitively to sonar, these last three strandings have triggered official inquiries into the possible role played by sonar in these mortalities. Intense noise generated by commercial air guns used for oil and gas exploration and oceanographic experiments; underwater explosives; and shipping traffic also poses a threat to marine life. Air gun use was correlated with whale strandings in the Gulf of California and Brazil in 2002. The global magnitude of the problem has not even been determined, as many fatally injured animals are likely to sink in the deep ocean and not all injured whales strand. Thus, a growing body of evidence confirms that intense sound produced by human-generated noise in the marine environment can induce a range of adverse effects on marine mammals. These effects include death and serious injury caused by hemorrhages or other tissue trauma, strandings, temporary and permanent hearing loss or impairment, displacement from preferred habitat and disruption of feeding, breeding, nursing, communication, sensing and other behaviors vital to survival. High intensity sonars and air guns impact not only marine mammals but also have been shown to affect fish, giant squid and snow crabs. In a study by the British Defense Research Agency, exposure to sonar signals caused auditory damage, internal injuries, eye hemorrhaging and mortality in commercially caught fish. Air guns caused extensive damage to the inner ears of fish and lowered trawl catch rates 45 to 70% over a 2,000 square mile area of ocean (Norwegian Institute of Marine Research). Catch rates did not recover in the five days surveyed after air gun use stopped. This presents the possibility that increasing production of intense underwater noise can significantly and adversely impact food supply, employment and the economies of maritime countries. Recent studies show that ocean background noise levels have doubled every decade for the past six decades. As a result of the masking effects of human-produced ocean noise pollution, the possible communication range of blue whales has decreased from greater than 1,000 km to only 100 km in the noisy Northern Hemisphere. We don't know how this affects their ability to find food and mates. Thus, there are numerous indications that intense noise from sonars, air guns, shipping and other sources poses serious threats to cetaceans and the already depleted fish stocks in the world's oceans..." Marsha L Green, PhD For references and citations contact info@oceanmammalinst.org The above information should be taken into consideration by the U.S. Navy and NOAA should provide all additional recent</p>

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		studies on all weapons systems in your Final EIS/OEIS for the Hawaii-Southern CA Range Complex.
Peterson	Ava	July 10, 2012 U.S. Navy Public Comment Hawaii-Southern CA Range Complex Proposed Expansion U.S. GAO 2002 Report: "...Unexploded ordnance are munitions that have been primed, fused, armed, or otherwise prepared for action, and have been fired, dropped, launched, projected, or placed in such a manner as to constitute a hazard to operations, installations, personnel, or material and remain unexploded either by malfunction, design or any other cause..." Munitions constituents consist of such things as propellants, explosives, pyrotechnics, chemical agents, metal parts, and other inert components that can pollute our oceans or cause harm to marine mammals, breeding habitats, migrating fish, whales, and other marine mammals. What precautions is the U.S. Navy taking to make sure that these unexploded ordnance are removed so that they don't pose a hazard to ocean and marine life and are not washed ashore onto beaches? If this type of unexploded ordnance is found in the Pacific Ocean or along any coastal beaches will the Navy pay for its safe removal? How much money has the U.S. Navy budgeted for this type of removal and clean up?
Peterson	Ava	U.S. NAVY PUBLIC COMMENTS & REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION July 10, 2012 It is almost totally impossible to be able to address a proposed Hawaii-Southern CA EIS/OEIS, without being able to consider a wide variety of classified documentation on the results of studies conducted by the U.S. Navy, NOAA, NMFS, independent studies, and other information on past, current, and proposed future weapons systems testing. The information which has been made public is limited and not readily available for public comment at this time under the proposed Hawaii-Southern CA EIS/OEIS. The U.S. Navy in their scoping Open House Sessions (in violation of NEPA), have refused to give any formal presentations, to take oral public comments (maybe a recorder available but hidden at most meetings), or provide information on new studies undertaken by the Navy or NOAA (also university studies). Therefore, we are requesting the following information in order to be able to make informed public comments on the proposed Hawaii-Southern CA Range Expansion. The U.S. Navy has been operating in 12+/- Five Year Warfare Testing Ranges since 2008-2012, including the NWTRC (part of the new NWTT Range). They have refused to provide the public with any information about their new weapons system testing in not only the NWTRC but in other range testing areas or studies on impacts to marine mammals, fish, biologically sensitive areas, migrating fish and whales, strandings, etc. Thus, this is a formal request for additional information about the U.S. Navy activities in the Pacific, Atlantic, and the Gulf of Mexico, where many of these new weapons systems, lasers, sonar, radar and other experimental tests have been or are currently being tested and their impact on all marine life and ecosystems. The Following is a List of Documents and studies requested so that the public and our elected officials can make informed public comments about the proposed NWTT: 1) September 10, 2010: U.S. Navy Final NWTRC EIS Volume II Page G113 Answer to public comment question: "...No, the Navy does not plan on suspending sonar operations during the gray whale migration seasons..." What is the justification for the Navy not suspending sonar operations during gray whale, turtle, and salmon migrations or protecting national marine sanctuaries, marine reserves, biologically sensitive areas, and breeding habitats? 2) The U.S. Navy has ongoing 5-Year Warfare Testing Programs in their Southern California and Hawaii Range Complexes. Does the Navy suspend sonar or bombing exercises during gray whale and other marine mammal or fish migrations which use the proposed NWTT and NWTRC corridor at various times of the year for these migrations as they move through breeding, feeding, and other biologically sensitive areas while nurturing their young? Will they suspend these activities in the proposed Hawaii-Southern CA Range? 6) The Navy states in their Final EIS and ROD (Record of Decision) that they will be testing new weapons systems in the NWTRC. What precautions will be taken by the Navy to protect marine mammals from the unknown impacts of these weapons systems? Will the Navy be testing these new systems and weapons in the proposed NWTT and the Hawaii-Southern CA Ranges? 7) What impacts will the new testing of electromagnetic weapons systems have on marine mammals and fish? We are formally requesting an online listing of studies undertaken since

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		<p>2008, on weapons system testing on marine mammals and fish in the Pacific, Atlantic, and the Gulf of Mexico. In order to evaluate these U.S. Navy, NOAA, NMFS, and other university or independent testing...the Navy needs to provide this information to the public. Once the public can evaluate these study results public comments will be of value in determining future allowable Navy testing in the NWTT and the NWTRC and the proposed Hawaii-Southern CA Range. 8) Since NOAA has issued the Navy a permit and Letter of Authorization to allow the Navy to "take" marine mammals paving the way for full-scale warfare testing, which areas, in the proposed NWTT and the Hawaii-Southern CA Range, will the Navy avoid to protect the endangered salmon and whales populations when they are in migration patterns? 9) U.S. Congressman Thompson has noted that NOAA & U.S. Navy mitigation measures to protect marine mammals are effective only 9% of the time...will the U.S. Navy be using mitigation measures now that are proven effective more than 9% of the time? If so, what studies were conducted by NOAA or the U.S. Navy that were proven effective more than 9% of the time and will the Navy institute using these alternatives? 10) The proposed Hawaii-Southern CA, NWTT and the NWTRC ranges are in an area where the fishing and tourism industries make millions of dollars. Will the U.S. Navy be warning those who are operating such businesses of their activities in advance in order to protect our fishermen and tourists from the impacts of these bombing exercises or toxic chemical exposures (from aluminum coated fiberglass particulates which can stay airborne up to 20 hours or airborne toxics like red phosphorus, smoke, flakes, obscurants or other airborne toxic chemicals), in the future? 11) The U.S. Navy NWTRC Final Environmental Impact Statement lists many hazardous materials that are being used in the NWTRC and their dangers. The Navy lists the following habitats that may be impacted by hazardous materials: Open Ocean Habitat Surface & Subsurface Areas Bottom Dwelling Communities, Near Shore Habitat which includes bottom dwelling algae, kelp forests, and seagrass beds. Why doesn't the Navy restrict its testing to limit the impact on biological sensitive habitats in the proposed Hawaii-Southern CA and NWTT Ranges and the NWTRC? 12) In several U.S. Navy final environmental Impact statements the Navy notes that many hazardous materials will be Containerized for Shore Disposal. Where will these contaminants be stored onshore and at what Navy facility will proper disposal be conducted? 13) In the Final NWTRC Environmental Impact Statement there are many hazardous materials which will be discharged overboard. Please designate, on the proposed Hawaii-Southern CA, NWTT and the NWTRC, U.S. Navy Range map which areas in the Pacific are considered "safe" for these discharges? And list any studies conducted by the U.S. Navy, NOAA, university, or the NMFS, to show that these areas are "safe" for these types of "discharges". 14) In the U.S. Navy NWTRC Final Environmental Impact Statement (Page G417) is found this information: "The Navy is not 'testing' new weapons within the NWTRC. All weapons and platforms coming to the NWTRC as a result of the proposed action have been tested in other training ranges." Why does the Navy need to conduct redundant testing in in both the proposed Hawaii-Southern CA Range and NWTT? (Said testing is currently being conducted in the Atlantic, Pacific (Hawaiian & Southern California & Mariana Range Complexes), and the Gulf of Mexico)? 15) There are fifteen or more U.S. Navy Ranges which have been approved for full-scale warfare testing in the Atlantic, Pacific, and the Gulf of Mexico. These final EIS/OEIS documents show that many weapons systems, bombs, sonar, and other Navy testing is redundant in each of these ranges. This redundancy along with the ever expanding and exponential growth of these ranges costs large sums of money. Many of the practice weapons are costly and older thus their capabilities (like the Hellfire Missile and many bombs, munitions, etc.,) are well known and studied...many having been used for ten to thirty years in various military actions around the world and in the U.S. What justification does the U.S. Navy use when considering practice with live fire practice rather than practice using bombs, etc., which won't explode but which can be used for practice purposes? It is the contention of many that the U.S. Navy (and all other branches of the U.S. military), should be protecting our oceans and our natural resources not destroying them in the name of war and war practice. Our oceans are a valuable source of food for millions of people, recreation, and sheer</p>

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		<p>beauty. We have enjoyed this bounty and beauty for hundreds of years and now the U.S. Navy and other branches of the military are engaged, without restrictions, in destroying them. What rationale does the U.S. Navy use for destroying our oceans for redundant war practice? Who authorized the U.S. Navy to engage in this type of destruction of our oceans and the marine life therein? And who has authorized the U.S. Navy to conduct atmospheric testing without the proper Environmental Impact Statements like the U.S. Navy CARE Experiments? Our oceans and our atmosphere provide for life here on Earth. If we destroy them in the name of war and experimentation what future will our children and grandchildren have long after we live in a wasteland of war practice destruction? How will Navy personnel explain to their children why the only marine mammals, like whales, that can only be seen are in old Navy warfare promotional movies due to the fact that our military destroyed them and their habitats in the name of perpetual war practice in the Atlantic, Pacific, and the Gulf of Mexico?</p>
Peterson	Debbie	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts and concerns for our sea life. " According to its own Environmental Impact Statements, the Navy estimates that the planned exercises would kill up to 2,000 marine mammals, including a large number of animals from endangered species, such as right whales. Thousands of others would suffer permanent lung damage. An additional 16,000 would be permanently deafened and 5 million would be temporarily deafened by the exercises." Why would the Navy want to intentionally cause this kind of damage to Sea Life?? I am asking that planned exercises are stopped immediatly, Without hesitation. The animals that are still living in the sea and haven't been destroyed by industrial fishing deserve protection not Bombs!!</p>
Peterson	Rosalind	<p>May 25, 2012 TO: The Honorable Secretary of the U.S. Navy, Ray Mabus RE: Formal Request & Action by the U.S. Navy in the Final HSTT EIS document. Dear Secretary Mabus: I am formally requesting, under the California Public Records Act, a hard copy and CD of the subsequent HSTT Final Environmental Impact Statement of the Hawaiian-Southern California Range Complex once prepared from your current draft HSTT EIS-OEIS document. I would also like notification of the dates when the final HSTT EIS/OEIS public comments are noticed in the U.S. Federal Register so that comments may be made in a timely manner. The following information was release by U.S. Senator McCain and U.S. Senator Levin: http://startingpoint.blogs.cnn.com/2012/05/22/sen-carl-levin-counterfeit-military-parts-pose-significant-safety-risk/ CNN News & Video – May 22, 2012 Sen. Carl Levin: Counterfeit military parts pose 'significant safety risk' "...Because of a recent surge of counterfeit military parts– such as pieces of equipment used in aircrafts– the Senate Armed Services Committee has adopted new legislation to change the procedural laws for buying new or refurbished parts. Senator Carl Levin joins Starting Point this morning to explain the details of the new law, which he has been working on alongside Sen. John McCain. Levin explains that the news laws say that parts can only be bought from contracted, authorized distributors or certified suppliers and dictates that suppliers will be responsible for their own repairs. Regarding the threat posed by the counterfeit parts, Levin explains that the problem occurs almost exclusively with equipment produced in China, and poses a "significant" safety threat to the nation..." End The U.S. Navy is now conducting warfare testing in the Pacific, Atlantic, and the Gulf of Mexico. Nuclear submarines, aircraft, ships, missiles, drones, and a whole host of other warfare weapons are now being tested over land and ocean areas. What actions are you taking to address the issue of counterfeit and questionable refurbished parts being purchased by the U.S. Navy? These counterfeit and faulty parts not only cost the U.S. Navy money but they have the potential to cause injuries to our Naval personnel, civilians, and others when they subsequently fail. Secretary Mabus, I have seen you recently on television and on interview shows, speaking about the U.S. Navy, but never once demanding that action be taken to address the issue of counterfeit parts, especially from China. In addition, I didn't hear you state, for the record, that the Navy will refuse to use said parts, especially from China, in order to protect the sailors under your watch and the civilians that may be killed or injured when these counterfeit parts malfunction. It is time that military parts, software, and hardware be made in the United States where quality controls are in place. I expect that you will at the forefront in stopping the use of counterfeit parts from</p>

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		China and other foreign countries. I am looking forward to hearing from you in writing within the next few days on this critical issue and that you will require that those who prepare your final HSTT EIS/OEIS to address this critical issue in order to protect our troops and the U.S. civilian population. Sincerely, Rosalind Peterson Post Office Box 499 Redwood Valley, CA 95470 (707) 485-7520
Peterson	Rosalind	U.S. Navy Hawaii-Southern California Range Complex Expansion Public Comment on July 10, 2012 On May 17, 2012, news reports that "Mass dolphin deaths in Peru caused by acoustic trauma" were announced by "...Dr. Carlos Yaipen Llanos of ORCA in Peru informed Hardy Jones of Blue Voice that acoustical trauma is the cause of the Mass Mortality Event (MME) that killed an estimated one thousand dolphins along the coast of northern Peru in March 2012..." [28]. This is another reason to begin to limit sonar, laser, radar, and electromagnetic weapons testing in the Atlantic, Pacific, and the Gulf of Mexico. We believe that the U.S. Navy & NOAA should investigate and find out if the U.S. Navy was involved in causing this acoustic trauma in March 2012, just after the Final EIS for the Gulf of Mexico GOMEX 5-year Warfare Testing & Take was finalized and approved. With the U.S. Navy practicing in almost every square inch of the Pacific, Atlantic, and Gulf of Mexico, the potential for harm to marine mammals increases exponentially. Since your own mitigation measures to protect marine mammals are effective only 9% of the time what new actions will the Navy be taking to improve sonar and bomb blast mitigation measures to 80% effectiveness? Respectfully, Rosalind Peterson CC: U.S. Congressman Mike Thompson U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein
Peterson	Rosalind	July 10, 2012 Public Comment- U.S. Navy Hawaii-Southern California Range Expansion U.S. Navy / NASA C.A.R.E. (Charged Aerosol Release Experiment), September 19, 2009 Aluminum Oxide Dust Cloud Released Over the East Coast of the United States using a NASA Brandt Rocket: http://www.nasa.gov/centers/wallops/CARE.html 17, U.S. Navy / NASA C.A.R.E. Experiment – "...CARE's principal investigator, Paul Bernhardt of the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington: "The CARE experiment could also pave the way for future launches that would use the uppermost part of Earth's atmosphere as a large physics laboratory for studying charged dust...Dusty plasmas, like those that will be created in the CARE (aluminum oxide dust cloud) experiment..." Will the U.S. Navy be conducting atmospheric testing (Like CARE Experiment Above), over the Pacific Ocean? Will the U.S. Navy be conducting any atmospheric experiments where toxic chemicals will be released that could pollute air, water, oceans, rivers, streams, and coastal regions? Will the U.S. Navy be conducting more CARE experiments over the Pacific or the Atlantic Oceans or land areas where you have range complexes? Rosalind Peterson CC: U.S. Congressman Mike Thompson U.S. Senator Boxer & Feinstein
Peterson	Rosalind	U.S. NAVY PUBLIC COMMENTS & REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION July 10, 2012 It is almost totally impossible to be able to address a proposed Hawaii-Southern CA EIS/OEIS, without being able to consider a wide variety of classified documentation on the results of studies conducted by the U.S. Navy, NOAA, NMFS, independent studies, and other information on past, current, and proposed future weapons systems testing. The information which has been made public is limited and not readily available for public comment at this time under the proposed Hawaii-Southern CA EIS/OEIS. The U.S. Navy in their scoping Open House Sessions (in violation of NEPA), have refused to give any formal presentations, to take oral public comments (maybe a recorder available but hidden at most meetings), or provide information on new studies undertaken by the Navy or NOAA (also university studies). Therefore, we are requesting the following information in order to be able to make informed public comments on the proposed Hawaii-Southern CA Range Expansion. The U.S. Navy has been operating in 12+/- Five Year Warfare Testing Ranges since 2008-2012, including the NWTRC (part of the new NWTT Range). They have refused to provide the public with any information about their new weapons system testing in not only the NWTRC but in other range testing areas or studies on impacts to marine mammals, fish, biologically sensitive areas, migrating fish and whales, strandings, etc. Thus, this is a formal request for additional information about the U.S. Navy activities in the Pacific, Atlantic, and the Gulf of Mexico, where many of these new weapons systems, lasers, sonar, radar

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		<p>and other experimental tests have been or are currently being tested and their impact on all marine life and ecosystems. The Following is a List of Documents and studies requested so that the public and our elected officials can make informed public comments about the proposed NWTT: 1) September 10, 2010: U.S. Navy Final NWTRC EIS Volume II Page G113 Answer to public comment question: "...No, the Navy does not plan on suspending sonar operations during the gray whale migration seasons..." What is the justification for the Navy not suspending sonar operations during gray whale, turtle, and salmon migrations or protecting national marine sanctuaries, marine reserves, biologically sensitive areas, and breeding habitats? 2) The U.S. Navy has ongoing 5-Year Warfare Testing Programs in their Southern California and Hawaii Range Complexes. Does the Navy suspend sonar or bombing exercises during gray whale and other marine mammal or fish migrations which use the proposed NWTT and NWTRC corridor at various times of the year for these migrations as they move through breeding, feeding, and other biologically sensitive areas while nurturing their young? Will they suspend these activities in the proposed Hawaii-Southern CA Range? 6) The Navy states in their Final EIS and ROD (Record of Decision) that they will be testing new weapons systems in the NWTRC. What precautions will be taken by the Navy to protect marine mammals from the unknown impacts of these weapons systems? Will the Navy be testing these new systems and weapons in the proposed NWTT and the Hawaii-Southern CA Ranges? 7) What impacts will the new testing of electromagnetic weapons systems have on marine mammals and fish? We are formally requesting an online listing of studies undertaken since 2008, on weapons system testing on marine mammals and fish in the Pacific, Atlantic, and the Gulf of Mexico. In order to evaluate these U.S. Navy, NOAA, NMFS, and other university or independent testing...the Navy needs to provide this information to the public. Once the public can evaluate these study results public comments will be of value in determining future allowable Navy testing in the NWTT and the NWTRC and the proposed Hawaii-Southern CA Range. 8) Since NOAA has issued the Navy a permit and Letter of Authorization to allow the Navy to "take" marine mammals paving the way for full-scale warfare testing, which areas, in the proposed NWTT and the Hawaii-Southern CA Range, will the Navy avoid to protect the endangered salmon and whales populations when they are in migration patterns? 9) U.S. Congressman Thompson has noted that NOAA & U.S. Navy mitigation measures to protect marine mammals are effective only 9% of the time...will the U.S. Navy be using mitigation measures now that are proven effective more than 9% of the time? If so, what studies were conducted by NOAA or the U.S. Navy that were proven effective more than 9% of the time and will the Navy institute using these alternatives? 10) The proposed Hawaii-Southern CA, NWTT and the NWTRC ranges are in an area where the fishing and tourism industries make millions of dollars. Will the U.S. Navy be warning those who are operating such businesses of their activities in advance in order to protect our fishermen and tourists from the impacts of these bombing exercises or toxic chemical exposures (from aluminum coated fiberglass particulates which can stay airborne up to 20 hours or airborne toxics like red phosphorus, smoke, flakes, obscurants or other airborne toxic chemicals), in the future? 11) The U.S. Navy NWTRC Final Environmental Impact Statement lists many hazardous materials that are being used in the NWTRC and their dangers. The Navy lists the following habitats that may be impacted by hazardous materials: Open Ocean Habitat Surface & Subsurface Areas Bottom Dwelling Communities, Near Shore Habitat which includes bottom dwelling algae, kelp forests, and seagrass beds. Why doesn't the Navy restrict its testing to limit the impact on biological sensitive habitats in the proposed Hawaii-Southern CA and NWTT Ranges and the NWTRC? 12) In several U.S. Navy final environmental Impact statements the Navy notes that many hazardous materials will be Containerized for Shore Disposal. Where will these contaminants be stored onshore and at what Navy facility will proper disposal be conducted? 13) In the Final NWTRC Environmental Impact Statement there are many hazardous materials which will be discharged overboard. Please designate, on the proposed Hawaii-Southern CA, NWTT and the NWTRC, U.S. Navy Range map which areas in the Pacific are considered "safe" for these discharges? And list any studies conducted by the U.S. Navy,</p>

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		<p>NOAA, university, or the NMFS, to show that these areas are “safe” for these types of “discharges”. 14) In the U.S. Navy NWTRC Final Environmental Impact Statement (Page G417) is found this information: "The Navy is not 'testing' new weapons within the NWTRC. All weapons and platforms coming to the NWTRC as a result of the proposed action have been tested in other training ranges." Why does the Navy need to conduct redundant testing in in both the proposed Hawaii-Southern CA Range and NWTT? (Said testing is currently being conducted in the Atlantic, Pacific (Hawaiian & Southern California & Mariana Range Complexes), and the Gulf of Mexico)? 15) There are fifteen or more U.S. Navy Ranges which have been approved for full-scale warfare testing in the Atlantic, Pacific, and the Gulf of Mexico. These final EIS/OEIS documents show that many weapons systems, bombs, sonar, and other Navy testing is redundant in each of these ranges. This redundancy along with the ever expanding and exponential growth of these ranges costs large sums of money. Many of the practice weapons are costly and older thus their capabilities (like the Hellfire Missile and many bombs, munitions, etc.) are well known and studied...many having been used for ten to thirty years in various military actions around the world and in the U.S. What justification does the U.S. Navy use when considering practice with live fire practice rather than practice using bombs, etc., which won't explode but which can be used for practice purposes? It is the contention of many that the U.S. Navy (and all other branches of the U.S. military), should be protecting our oceans and our natural resources not destroying them in the name of war and war practice. Our oceans are a valuable source of food for millions of people, recreation, and sheer beauty. We have enjoyed this bounty and beauty for hundreds of years and now the U.S. Navy and other branches of the military are engaged, without restrictions, in destroying them. What rationale does the U.S. Navy use for destroying our oceans for redundant war practice? Who authorized the U.S. Navy to engage in this type of destruction of our oceans and the marine life therein? And who has authorized the U.S. Navy to conduct atmospheric testing without the proper Environmental Impact Statements like the U.S. Navy CARE Experiments? Our oceans and our atmosphere provide for life here on Earth. If we destroy them in the name of war and experimentation what future will our children and grandchildren have long after we live in a wasteland of war practice destruction? How will Navy personnel explain to their children why the only marine mammals, like whales, that can only be seen are in old Navy warfare promotional movies due to the fact that our military destroyed them and their habitats in the name of perpetual war practice in the Atlantic, Pacific, and the Gulf of Mexico?</p>
Peterson	Rosalind	<p>July 10, 2012 - Public Comment - Hawaii-Southern California Range Expansion Drone Weapons Testing & Surveillance over the United States & Pacific, Atlantic & Gulf of Mexico The U.S. Navy is now working to expand their drone operations over the United States. In Oregon, a new draft Navy Environmental Impact Statement is due out this summer for public comment. Drones carrying and testing bombs, new weapons systems, testing new types of drones, and surveillance over land and ocean areas are planned for our future. Compounding this issue, as reported by The Guardian.co.uk on April 2, 2012, "...American scientists have drawn up plans for a new generation of nuclear-powered drones capable of flying over remote regions of the world for months on end without refueling...". In addition, there is increasing drone surveillance leading to questions over public privacy in the U.S. Accidents are increasing as the U.S. Navy and police departments in Texas and other areas are increasing drone usage. The U.S. Navy is now purchasing aircraft and other parts from China which have the potential to be substandard according to Senator Levin and may cause increasing accidents from all types of aircraft. What action is the Navy taking to stop the purchase of defective aircraft and other parts from other countries? How many U.S. Navy land-base drone ranges will be conducting warfare testing, testing new weapons systems in unmanned aerial vehicles or aircraft, using nuclear powered drones, and will be carrying surveillance or weapons over land and ocean areas? Who will be conducting surveillance activities over land areas (private contractor or U.S. Navy or other Branches of the U.S. military in conjunction with the U.S. Navy), on American citizens and what will happen to the information collected? Why are these U.S. Navy drone ranges considered on a separate basis from other ranges</p>

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		when they are working in conjunction with the other ocean based range complexes? Rosalind Peterson CC: U.S. Congressman Thompson U.S. Senators Boxer & Feinstein
Peterson	Rosalind	July 10, 2012 RE: U.S. Navy Hawaii-Southern CA Range Complex Expansion Public Comment Reducing Environmental Cancer Risk Annual Report NCI Presidential Cancer Panel Report April 2010: Reducing Environmental Cancer NCI – Presidential Cancer Panel 2008-2009 Report Released April 2010 See: Chapter 5 Exposure to Contaminants and Other Hazards from Military Sources Summary: "...The military is a major source of toxic occupational and environmental exposures that can increase cancer risk. Information is available about some military activities that have directly or indirectly exposed military and civilian personnel to carcinogens and contaminated soil and water in numerous locations in the United States and abroad..." "...Nearly 900 Superfund sites are abandoned military facilities or facilities that produced materials and products for or otherwise supported military needs. Some of these sites and the areas surrounding them became heavily contaminated due to improper storage and disposal of known or suspected carcinogens including solvents, machining oils, metalworking fluids, and metals. In some cases, these contaminants have spread far beyond their points of origin because they have been transported by wind currents or have leached into drinking water supplies..." The U.S. Navy as a wide range of toxic materials that are used in all of their twelve 5-Year warfare testing ranges. In specific, please detail all of your plans for proper disposal of all toxic wastes, hazardous materials, and other waste in the new NWTT range and the new Hawaii-Southern CA Range Expansion, and also please detail where all of these hazardous wastes are disposed of properly that are used in the current NWTRC, the Hawaii Range, the Mariana Range, and the Southern CA Range. We oppose any ocean dumping of toxic wastes and materials in any of the Pacific Range Complexes. We request that all areas where the U.S. Navy dumps toxic chemicals in the ocean be designated on a map in the Hawaii-Southern CA Final EIS/OEIS. Please advise on all types of weapons testing that exposes U.S. Navy personnel and the public to environmental, health (carcinogens, etc.), or occupational hazards when training in the NWTRC, the proposed NWTT Range Complex or the Hawaii-Southern CA Range Proposed Expansion.
Peterson	Rosalind	July 10, 2012 U.S. Navy Public Comment: Hawaii-Southern California Range Expansion I just found this BBC News item about underwater listening stations. It appears the U.S. Navy has a way to track marine mammals with these devices which would be a more effective mitigation measure than is being used by the U.S. Navy & NOAA. I am raising this issue with both the U.S. Navy and NOAA. The new NWTT Range Expansion Public Comment period is over but this might be a way to protect schools of fish and also marine mammals in their testing areas and also in the new Southern California-Hawaii Expansion Range. Sonar Heard Underwater - BBC NEWS January 13 2012 "...Listening stations on the seabed all over the world are streaming sound in real time to websites that anyone can access, allowing people to hear everything from male humpback whales singing off Hawaii, to last year's Japanese earthquake. Conscious of security, the US Navy has brokered a deal with scientists in the north Pacific which allows the navy to delete any sounds of US or Canadian military shipping before the audio is sent out across the internet. It now wants to do similar deals with other scientists around the world, but some experts say that is both improbable, and in this new age of internet accessibility, unreasonable. This is the sound of a sonar system in operation, best known for being used by submarines to determine the position, nature and speed of objects under the water..." Will the U.S. Navy look into this method and advise on how effective this method might be in protecting marine mammals, migrating fish and marine mammals, and other marine life? Rosalind Peterson
Peterson	Rosalind	July 10, 2012 Public Comment: U.S. Navy Hawaii-Southern California Range Expansion ScienceDaily (Dec. 16, 2010) — The Applied Bioacoustics Laboratory (LAB) of the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC) has developed the first system equipped with hydrophones able to record sounds on the seafloor in real time over the Internet. The system detects the presence of cetaceans and makes it possible to analyze how noise caused by human activity can affect the natural

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		<p>habitat of these animals and the natural balance of oceans. A new EU directive on the sea has ruled that all member states must comply with a set of indicators for measuring marine noise pollution before 2012. Will be the U.S. Navy and NOAA be participating in this EU directive to measure marine noise pollution? Will the U.S. Navy entertain using this method to help protect marine mammals and other marine life from excessive noise pollution, sonar use, laser and radar technologies now being tested or developed in the near future? Electromagnetic weapons systems are being developed which will also impact marine mammals and other aquatic life. Will the Navy be using or testing these devices in the Pacific Ocean areas of the Mariana Island Range, the Hawaiian Range, the Gulf of Mexico Range, the Southern California Range (and new expansion), or in the NWTRC? What impact do all of these new weapons systems have on marine life? What studies have been conducted to understand these impacts by the Navy, NOAA or other independent agencies or universities? Rosalind Peterson CC: U.S. Congressman Thompson U.S. Senators Boxer & Feinstein</p>
Peterson	Rosalind	<p>July 10, 2012 Questions for U.S. Navy Hawaii-Southern CA Expansion: 1) U.S. GAO 2002 Report: "...Unexploded ordnance are munitions that have been primed, fused, armed, or otherwise prepared for action, and have been fired, dropped, launched, projected, or placed in such a manner as to constitute a hazard to operations, installations, personnel, or material and remain unexploded either by malfunction, design or any other cause. Munitions constituents consist of such things as propellants, explosives, pyrotechnics, chemical agents, metal parts, and other inert components that can pollute the soil and/or ground water..." A. Please list all of the unexploded ordnances and also what mitigation measures the Navy is using now in the NWTRC and the proposed NWTT range for this type of unexploded ordnance. (Please include the Hawaii-Southern CA Range Complex Expansion in your answer.) B. Also advise on what impacts this type of ordnance will have on marine mammals, fish, aquatic environments, and what action the Navy will take if they wash ashore. How much funding does the Navy have allocated to protect shorelines? 2) September 10, 2010: U.S. Navy Final EIS Volume II Page G113 Answer to public comment question: "...No, the Navy does not plan on suspending sonar operations during the gray whale migration seasons..." A. Why won't the Navy suspend sonar operations during gray whale and fish migration periods in the NWTRC or the proposed NWTT Range Expansion which includes the NWTRC? And will the Navy suspend sonar and bomb blast operations in the Hawaii-Southern CA Range Complex Expansion during marine mammal and fish migration periods? 3) The U.S. Navy has ongoing 5-Year Warfare Testing Programs in their Southern California, Panama, Mariana Island, Hawaii Range, and other range complexes? A. Does the Navy suspend sonar or bombing exercises during gray whale and other marine mammal or fish migrations in any of their 5-Year Warfare Range Complexes in the Pacific, Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico active ranges? B. The Navy states in their Final EIS and ROD (Record of Decision) that they will be testing new weapons systems in the NWTRC. Will this be true in the proposed NWTT Range and the Hawaii-Southern CA Range Expansion? C. What precautions will be taken by the Navy to protect marine mammals from the unknown impacts of these new weapons systems? D. What impacts will the new testing of electromagnetic weapons systems have on marine mammals and please list which recent studies, if any, have been conducted to determine their impact on marine mammals, fish and other aquatic life? 4) Since NOAA has issued the Navy a permit and Letter of Authorization to allow the Navy to "take" marine mammals paving the way for full-scale warfare testing, which areas in the NWTRC and the Hawaii-Southern CA Ranges prior to any new expansion. Will the Navy avoid protect the endangered salmon and whales populations when they are in migration or feeding patterns? What actions will the Navy take to protect biologically sensitive areas and breeding habitats in this new Hawaii-Southern CA Range expansion? 5) U.S. Congressman Thompson has noted that NOAA & U.S. Navy mitigation measures to protect marine mammals are effective only 9% of the time...will the U.S. Navy be using mitigation measures now that are proven effective more than 9% of the time? If so, what studies were conducted by NOAA or the U.S. Navy that were proven effective more than 9% of the time and could be used today in the proposed NWTT Range? 6) The NWTRC,</p>

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		<p>Hawaii and Southern CA are areas where the fishing and tourism industries make millions of dollars. Will the U.S. Navy be warning those who are operating such businesses of their activities in advance in order to protect our fishermen and tourists from the impacts of these bombing exercises or toxic chemical exposure from aluminum coated fiberglass particulates (Chaff), which can stay airborne up to 20 hours or airborne toxics like red and white phosphorus in the proposed Hawaii-Southern CA Range expansion? 7) The U.S. Navy Final Environmental Impact Statement lists many hazardous materials that will be used in many areas... and the dangers from unexploded ordinances that then sink to the bottom of the ocean. The Navy lists the following habitats that may be impacted by hazardous materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Ocean Habitat and Surface & Subsurface Areas • Bottom Dwelling Communities - Near Shore Habitat which includes bottom dwelling algae including kelp forests, and seagrass beds <p>A. Why doesn't the Navy restrict its testing to limit the impact on biological sensitive habitats in the NWTRC and the proposed NWTT and Hawaii-Southern CA Range? 8) In the Final Environmental Impact Statement the Navy notes that many hazardous materials will be "Containerized for Shore Disposal". Where will these contaminants and containers be stored onshore and at what Navy facility? 9) In the Final Environmental Impact Statement there are many hazardous materials which will be discharged overboard. Please designate on the NWTRC and the proposed NWTT and the Hawaii-Southern CA Range map where these ocean areas considered "safe" are located for these discharges in the Pacific, Atlantic or the Gulf of Mexico? 10) In the U.S. Navy Final Environmental Impact Statement (Page G417) is found this information: "The Navy is not 'testing' new weapons within the NWTRC and other Pacific Navy Ranges. All weapons and platforms coming to the NWTRC as a result of the proposed action have been testing in other training ranges." A. Why does the Navy need to conduct redundant testing in the NWTRC and the proposed NWTT and Hawaii Southern CA Range? (Since said testing is currently being conducted in the Atlantic, Pacific (Hawaiian & Southern California Range Complexes), and the Gulf of Mexico.)</p>
Peterson	Rosalind	<p>July 10, 2012 U.S. Navy Hawaii-Southern CA Range Expansion Public Comment – Scoping Under NEPA for Draft EIS There are a wide variety of chemicals used by the U.S. Navy in many warfare testing ranges. We are requesting that the following be addressed in the proposed U.S. Navy Draft EIS with respect to human health, ocean impacts, marine mammals and fish, servicemen in area of usage, air, ocean, and water pollution, also risks from airborne pollution to shoreline communities: U.S. Navy Chemicals Usage – Warfare Weapons Range Complexes in the United States. 1) *Titanium tetrachloride is a colorless to pale yellow liquid that has fumes with a strong odor. If it comes in contact with water, it rapidly forms hydrochloric acid, as well as titanium compounds. Titanium tetrachloride is not found naturally in the environment and is made from minerals that contain titanium. It is used to make titanium metal and other titanium-containing compounds, such as titanium dioxide, which is used as a white pigment in paints and other products and to produce other chemicals. Military use it as a component of spotting charges. Titanium tetrachloride is very irritating to the eyes, skin, mucous membranes, and the lungs. Breathing in large amounts can cause serious injury to the lungs. Contact with the liquid can burn the eyes and skin. HAZARDS: _ Explosive _ Red phosphorus or Titanium tetrachloride _ Smoke/incendiary 2) MK-20 Rockeye Description Physical Characteristics The MK-20 Rockeye is a free-fall, unguided cluster weapon designed to kill tanks and armored vehicles. The system consists of a clamshell dispenser, a mechanical MK-339 timed fuze, and 247 dual-purpose armor-piercing shaped-charge bomblets. The bomblet weighs 1.32 pounds and has a 0.4-pound shaped charge warhead of high explosives, which produces up to 250,000 psi at the point of impact, allowing penetration of approximately 7.5 inches of armor. Rockeye is most efficiently use against area targets requiring penetration to kill. Fielded in 1968, the Rockeye dispenser is also used in the Gator air delivered mine system. During Desert Storm US Marines used the weapon extensively, dropping 15,828 of the 27,987 total Rockeyes against armor, artillery, and antipersonnel targets. The remainder were dropped by Air Force (5,345) and Navy (6,814) aircraft. Filling: 247 bomblets 3) *Red Phosphorus may be harmful if absorbed through skin, ingested, or inhaled, and may cause irritation of the skin, eyes, upper respiratory tract, gastrointestinal</p>

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		<p>tract, and mucous membranes. Inhalation of red phosphorus dust may cause bronchitis. Ingestion of red phosphorus may also cause stomach pains, vomiting, and diarrhea. Effects may vary from mild irritation to severe destruction of tissue depending on the intensity and duration of exposure. Prolonged and/or repeated skin contact may result in dermatitis. Chronic exposure may cause kidney and liver damage, anemia, stomach pains, vomiting, diarrhea, blood disorders, and cardiovascular effects. Chronic ingestion or inhalation may induce systemic phosphorus poisoning. If red phosphorus is contaminated with white phosphorus, chronic ingestion may cause necrosis of the jaw bone ("phossy-jaw"). HAZARDS: Explosive; Red phosphorus or Titanium tetrachloride; Smoke/incendiary. 4) **Pyrotechnic and screening devices contain combustible chemicals which, when ignited, rapidly generate a flame of intense heat, flash, infrared radiation, smoke or sound display (or combinations of these effects) for a variety of purposes. Compared to other explosive substances, pyrotechnics are more adversely affected by moisture, temperature, and rough handling. Some compositions may become more sensitive, and even ignite, when exposed to moisture or air. Mixtures which contain chlorates and sulfur are susceptible to spontaneous combustion. Most pyrotechnics produce a very hot fire that is difficult to extinguish and most burn without serious explosions. Many chemicals used in pyrotechnics produce toxic effects when ignited. Other pyrotechnics, which contain propelling charges, create an extremely hazardous missile hazard if accidentally ignited. What types of precautions are used to protect U.S. Navy personnel to exposure when these and other toxic chemicals are being used in the NWTRC, the proposed NWT, and the Hawaii-Southern California Range Expansion?</p>
Peterson	Rosalind	<p>July 10, 2012 Public Comment: U.S. Navy Proposed Hawaii-Southern CA Draft EIS – NEPA The killer whales of the Salish Sea could be negatively impacted by both the Canadians and the U.S. Navy using sonar in their critical habitat. The proposed NWT Draft EIS should consider that combined and individual Canadian and U.S. Navy Sonar usage will have a negative impact on marine mammals. Intense underwater noise like the "pings" from mid-frequency active sonar poses significant risks to killer whales and other migrating whales. All sources of sonar and acoustic noise should be considered in the proposed Draft NWT EIS. On February 6, 2012, the Canadian Naval frigate HMCS Ottawa used its sonar system in critical habitat of the endangered Southern Resident Killer Whales during a training exercise east of Victoria, B.C. The calls of the Southern Residents' K and L pods were heard 18 hours later in Haro Strait, and sub-groups of K and L pods were identified 36 hours after the sonar use in Discovery Bay – a location where Southern Residents have never been sighted in 22 years of records. These observations are reminiscent of an incident in May, 2003, when the USS Shoup's sonar training exercise caused similar unusual nearshore surface milling behavior of Southern Residents in Haro Strait. New limits should be put on the use of mid-frequency active (MFA) sonar, particularly in the critical habitat of the Southern Residents. Killer whales are sensitive to the frequencies emitted by MFA sonar (2-10 kHz) and use the same frequency range to communicate with calls and whistles. Because MFA sonar is intense (source levels ~220-235 underwater decibels), it could permanently or temporarily deafen whales that are unexpectedly nearby and thereby impact their ability to forage, navigate, and socialize. (There has been report of dolphins experiencing hearing losses in other areas.) Even temporary threshold shifts could be deleterious because the recovery of the Southern Residents hinges on their use of echolocation to find, identify, and acquire their primary prey, Pacific salmon. Since the NWTRC is being expanded to include Alaska Testing Ranges these issues should be studied and addressed in the Draft NWT EIS. Current procedures for mitigating underwater military noise are inadequate to protect either the resident or transient ecotypes. These procedures depend on the ability to detect whales within 1000 yards (U.S.) or 4000 yards (Canada), which neither passive acoustic listening nor visual surveillance can reliably accomplish. The unprecedented sighting of Southern Residents in Discovery Bay suggests that they may have been present during the pre-dawn sonar exercise on February 6, 2003, while remaining undetected by the Canadian Navy's marine mammal monitoring procedures. The 2003 Shoup incident and scientific literature that MFA sonar can disrupt marine mammal behavior well</p>

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		<p>beyond the current mitigation distances, particularly in the sound propagation conditions of the Salish Sea. The U.S. Navy should investigate all recent scientific literature on sonar and not just rely on very old studies...many of which were not peer-reviewed. The U.S. Navy should restrict MFA sonar and other intense underwater sound sources in all training and testing conducted in the Salish Sea. We are interested in any sonar research on all whales and other marine mammals being included in the U.S. Navy draft NWTT EIS and the Hawaii-Southern CA draft EIS with regard to the ever-increasing amount and types of sounds that marine mammals and other aquatic organisms are being exposed to from military and non-military exercises and testing.</p>
Peterson	Rosalind	<p>July 10, 2012 U.S. Navy Public Comment – Proposed Hawaii-Southern California Range Complex – NEPA Process to be addressed the Draft EIS: Exhibit 1) The U.S. Navy and NASA are also engaged in atmospheric test using aluminum oxide released by rockets (C.A.R.E.), which could have consequences if used in the NWTRC with ocean acidity and water pollution: http://www.nrl.navy.mil/pao/pressRelease.php?Y=2009&R=97-09r This test was conducted on September 19, 2009. Does the U.S. Navy plan additional upper atmospheric testing...possibly over the Pacific Ocean or the West Coast of California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Idaho or Hawaii? These dust clouds remain airborne and then the aluminum oxide returns to the Earth. The effects of these programs on our oceans and water supplies have not been investigated and may be have been used in the NWTRC testing range or will be used in the proposed NWTT or Hawaii-Southern CA Range Complex Expansion. Will aluminum oxide dust clouds be released by the U.S. Navy over the NWTT or the Hawaii-Southern CA Range Complex? What studies have been conducted to determine the impact of these programs on marine mammals and ocean environment? Exhibit 2) New Types of Sonar that should be investigated and addressed in the new Hawaii-Southern CA EIS: 16A) http://www.navy.mil/search/display.asp?story_id=48201 Next Generation of Mine-hunting Sonar 2009 U.S. Navy – Impact on Marine mammals and fish in the NWTRC in 2011-2012 and also proposed for NWTT Range Complex? 16B) http://www.nrl.navy.mil/pao/pressRelease.php?Y=2009&R=63-09r 2009 - U.S. Navy Article We also don't know if this type of laser sonar has been used in the NWTRC or will be used in the proposed NWTT or Hawaii-Southern CA range complex and what impacts it will have on marine mammals and fish? Please advise. Exhibit 3) Also note use of U.S. Navy directed energy weapons systems 2009. U.S. Navy Thursday, October 01, 2009. Has the Navy used this technology in the NWTRC and will it be used in the proposed NWTT range? Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren News New Energy Center to Impact Future Weapons for Naval and Joint Forces DAHLGREN, Va. (NNS) -- The Navy demonstrated its commitment to "game-changing" directed energy technological programs at the Naval Directed Energy Center (NDEC) ribbon cutting ceremony held at Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren Division (NSWCDD) Sept. 17, 2009. What impact will this technology have on marine mammals and fish? What studies have been conducted by the Navy to determine impacts on marine life in the Pacific if this technology is used in either the NWTRC or the proposed NWTT and Hawaii-Southern CA range complexes? http://www.navy.mil/search/display.asp?story_id=48285 Exhibit 4) U.S. Navy Press Release June 26, 2010 http://www.nrl.navy.mil/pao/pressRelease.php?Y=2010&R=74-10r "...Complete with the ceremonious champagne christening, the USNS Howard O. Lorenzen (T-AGM 25) is the second ship in U.S. Navy history to honor an NRL scientist for contributions made to Naval and civilian scientific research. Operated by the Military Sealift Command the missile range instrumentation ship, equipped with a new dual band phased array radar system and other advanced mission technology, it will replace the USNS Observation Island launched in 1953..." Do we know what impact this new radar system will have on marine mammals and fish or other aquatic life? What studies have been conducted to determine said impacts? Exhibit 5) U.S. Navy Press Release February 12, 2010 http://www.nrl.navy.mil/pao/pressRelease.php?Y=2010&R=6-10r "...The new device, called the Swept Wavelength Optical resonant-Raman Device (SWORRD),</p>

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		<p>illuminates a sample with a sequence of as many as 100 laser wavelengths and measures the spectrum of light scattered from the sample at each laser wavelength..." This type of laser might have been used in the NWTRC and may be used in the proposed NWTT or Hawaii-Southern CA Range Complex. Will this device negatively impact marine life in either the NWTRC or proposed NWTT and Hawaii-Southern CA Ranges? Also what studies have been conducted (results), regarding its impact on marine mammals and fish? Exhibit 6) U.S. Navy Press Release September 4, 2009 "...Scientists at the Naval Research Laboratory are developing a new technology for use in underwater acoustics. The new technology uses flashes of laser light to remotely create underwater sound. The new acoustic source has the potential to expand and improve both Naval and commercial underwater acoustic applications, including undersea communications, navigation, and acoustic imaging..." This type of laser technology used in the NWTRC may negatively impact marine mammals and other marine life in the proposed NWTT and Hawaii-Southern CA Range Complexes. What studies have been conducted and what were the results of said studies on marine mammals, fish, and other aquatic organisms? Exhibit 7) There are 59 abstract studies regarding Acoustic Bubbles listed on this site some of which were conducted by the U.S. Navy-none of them involve sea life or marine mammal impacts: http://www.stormingmedia.us/search.html?q=acoustic+bubbles+ocean&search.x=13&search.y=7 What studies have been conducted to see if Acoustic Bubbles have impact on marine mammals and what were the results of those studies? Will the U.S. Navy be using this technology in the proposed NWTT and Hawaii-Southern CA Ranges? Has it been used in the NWTRC and what were the results of said tests on marine mammals? Exhibit 8) Oceans Studies are also showing that sound travels farther as the ocean becomes more acidic. http://www.mbari.org/news/news_releases/2008/co2-sound/co2-sound-release.html This could be problematic with ever-increasing sonar usage and the chemicals that Navy uses that would increase ocean acidification. The Navy E.I.S., does not address this issue nor do the NMFS proposed rules. Many studies indicate that our oceans are becoming more acidic. What studies have been conducted to determine the increasing sound distances caused by ocean acidity in the NWTRC and the proposed NWTT and Hawaii-Southern CA Ranges on marine mammals, fish, and other aquatic life? Please advise on study results. Exhibit 9) Oceans are 'too noisy' for whales – September 15, 2008 What recent studies has the Navy conducted in the past two years on the noise impact on marine mammals? Results? http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/7616283.stm Exhibit 10) California EPA Information - EPA Perchlorate Health Effects Report March 2008 http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/gama/docs/perchlorate_mar08_infosheet.pdf The toxic chemical listing by the Navy in their E.I.S., shows that many chemicals will be used during their NWTRC Warfare Testing Program Expansion. The California EPA lists the health hazards for most of these chemicals. Many of them are toxic to fish or accumulate in the food chain like Mercury. Thus, the toxicity of the chemicals used by the Navy should also be assessed by the Navy before use in proposed NWTT and Hawaii-Southern CA Range Complexes. Did the Navy conduct such testing in the NWTRC to determine the impacts of said chemicals used in the NWTRC range? What tests and what were the results of said tests? How many marine mammals were tested for toxic chemicals in the NWTRC, the Southern CA Range, the Mariana Range, and the Hawaii Range that are being used by the Navy at this time for warfare testing and experiments? Results?</p>
Peterson	Rosalind	<p>July 10, 2012 U.S. Navy Hawaii-Southern CA Public Comment RE: NOAA Sonar Mitigation Measures – Permit for U.S. Navy to “TAKE” Marine Mammals NOAA Letter Dated January 19, 2010 – Regarding Sonar Mitigation Measures On January 19, 2010, NOAA sent a letter to Ms. Nancy Sutley, Chair, Council on Environmental Quality that states that a comprehensive review of mitigation measures was conducted and completed by the NMFS (NOAA). This NOAA letter also states: "...In the Environmental Assessments, NMFS (National Marine Fisheries Service-NOAA), also identified the relevant uncertainties regarding the impacts of the proposed training on marine mammals. Two are worth highlighting:</p>

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		<p>• One involves lack of knowledge about the mechanism whereby some species of marine mammals...are adversely affected by mid-frequency sonar. • The other concerns the difficulties of limiting the impact of active sonar where the mitigation efforts depend on visual sighting of whales...” • These issues need to be resolved prior to the issuance of any more permits to the Navy for the “taking” of marine mammals in the proposed draft NWTT and proposed Hawaii-Southern CA Range Complex Expansion EIS. It should be alleged that NOAA is using biased Navy data from “after action reports” rather than having unbiased and professional marine biologists present during and after these military actions to determine impacts from the use of sonar, bomb blasts, use of toxic chemicals and other warfare exercises that will impact marine mammals and other sea life. It is unacceptable to accept the premise that sonar is the only impact that will be felt by marine mammals and other sea life during Navy warfare exercises. It is also unacceptable that the only mitigation measures planned are for sonar use. The Navy is unlikely to report negatives because they would have to alter their methods if any adverse information showed up...and they don't want to alter their activities in any manner at this time. The determination that sonar caused certain impacts on marine mammals cannot be separated from the impacts caused by other warfare weapon testing such as bomb blasts or use of toxic chemicals. (When the U.S. Navy uses only their own statistics on mitigation measures with regard to marine mammal impacts, without oversight (on-the-sea) independent monitoring of their activities, you have the fox guarding the chicken coop and reporting on the number of chickens left after each military exercise...not a good idea if you want any of the chickens to survive.) The U.S. Navy should be protecting our ocean marine mammals and other sea life. The proposed Hawaii-Southern CA Range Expansion should consider protection these natural resources instead of destroying them. Some day we may need them...once destroyed they can't be replaced. There is definitely a conflict of interest because the Navy and NOAA (NMFS) are cooperating agencies. We need oversight from independent non-cooperating agencies not dependent on Navy funding, who will uphold U.S. laws which protect endangered and threatened species and other environmental laws. We are speaking about the Navy being allowed to “take” more than 11.7 million or more marine mammals over the course of multiple 5-Year warfare testing in the Atlantic, Pacific and the Gulf of Mexico. This does not include protections for any other marine life, habitats, national marine sanctuaries, marine reserves, and other biologically sensitive areas. And there are no protections or mitigation measures for toxic chemical usage, bomb blasts, missile exercises and other classified types of warfare testing. The Navy proposed Hawaii-Southern CA Range Expansion should consider the total number of “takes” from all forms of military testing and chemicals used in all of the active and proposed ocean ranges and from all branches of the military operating in the Pacific. Independent agencies doing surveys involving independent marine and other biologists will produce the best results. Those that have military connections and funding have a built in bias. The Mineral Management Service (MMS), is not qualified to provide this type of work considering they have been working hand-and-glove with business interests for years and will protect the Navy interests over the environment and the safety of marine mammals. This is not a satisfactory solution or an entity that can be trusted at this time. The NOAA letter also states that the NMFS will conduct workshops on the individual and cumulative impacts of sonar and other noise that now are part of our ocean environment. This letter goes on to state: “...There are no baselines with which to measure the cumulative sound impacts...” Also the Navy has now started to replace older sonar methods with new ones which will also be tested during Navy warfare exercises. We have few studies and little if any research on the impact of these new methods on marine mammals or other sea life.” The U.S. Navy should provide current research on new weapons systems and sonar usage in their proposed Hawaii-Southern CA Range Expansion in order to protect all ocean sea life? The U.S. Navy and the NMFS (NOAA), are alleged to be conducting workshops on these issues along with mitigation and monitoring measures as cooperating agencies. The NOAA letter states: “...Protecting important marine habitat is generally recognized to be the most effective mitigation measure currently available...” This leads to the question: Why isn't the Navy</p>

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		<p>being required to protect national marine sanctuaries, marine reserves, breeding and feeding grounds, and biologically sensitive areas from direct warfare activities? The U.S. Navy and the NMFS, according to this letter, agreed to "...conduct a pre-workshop in 2010, to allow the public an opportunity to provide input and prepare for the 2011 workshop..." What were the results of this workshop? Will they be published in the Hawaii-Southern CA Range Expansion EIS? The NOAA letter also states: "...the NMFS has required that the Navy convene a workshop to review and modify, as appropriate, the monitoring measures included in the regulations. This workshop is scheduled for 2011..." The NOAA letter goes on to state: "...All of the planned workshops should lead to substantial new information related to improved mitigation strategies for military activities..." Will the U.S. Navy be taking into consideration the findings from these NOAA workshops to improve their mitigation strategies in your Hawaii-Southern CA Range Expansion EIS? The Navy NWTRC FEIS and the ROD do not spell out this new monitoring and mitigation program which was apparently initiated earlier this year... It should be noted that monitoring only by the Navy leads one to believe that it is not in their self-interest to accurately reporting their findings...and there should be immediate independent oversight in with regard to the ongoing Hawaiian, Mariana, NWTRC, and Southern California warfare range testing. Important issues that the U.S. Navy should address in their proposed Hawaii-Southern CA Range Expansion EIS: 1) The issue seems to be only sonar related with no mitigation measures planned for birds, fish, and other marine life. 2) What about the damage to the ocean and habitats from toxic chemicals, bomb blasts, missile exercises, and other classified warfare testing? None of these issues are discussed by anyone and they should be raised. 3) No protections for breeding habitats, national marine sanctuaries, marine reserves and other sensitive areas are planned by either NOAA or the U.S. Navy in most areas. This needs to be changed and we need built-in protection for these areas and for areas that are prime food sources for all sea life. 4) The U.S. EPA, California EPA, and the U.S. Department of Fish & Game have also been excluded from these workshops and oversight of Navy activities... and they should be included along with various university biologists and others working in the marine biology fields.</p>
Peugh	James	<p>July 10, 2012 Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Southwest Attention: HSTT EIS/OEIS Project Manager – EV21.CS 1220 Pacific Highway, Building 1, Floor 3 San Diego, California 92132-5190 Subject: Hawaii-Southern California Training and Testing Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) The San Diego Audubon Society has attended outreach sessions and reviewed the Subject EIS. We urge that the Navy seriously consider the following comments and upgrade the Final EIS to incorporate them to actually minimize the environmental impacts of this Training and Testing project. If these issues are not addressed, the EIS will clearly fail to satisfy the intent and the letter of NEPA. PROTECTION OF SEABIRDS Section 3.6.3, Environmental Consequences states: "Certain activities take place in specific locations or depth zones within the Study Area outside of the range or foraging abilities of seabirds. Therefore, seafloor device strike, cable and wire entanglement, parachute entanglement, and ingestion of munitions were not carried forward in this analysis for seabirds." However other activities, such as those near San Diego, the Channel Islands, Coronado Island, the Hawaiian Islands, etc. will take place well within range and foraging range of seabirds including those listed as threatened and endangered. So, an analysis of the impacts of those activities must be included in the EIS for those areas. It is especially difficult to accept the cavalier dismissal of those impacts for the endangered California Least Terns. Their foraging range is only known for breeding adults and fledglings during nesting season. Their foraging area for the rest of the year is assumed to be at sea somewhere, but the distribution is not known. If the Navy is basing its assumption on information on the distribution of Least Terns that is not available to the regulatory and ornithological community, the EIS must provide that information for their assessment. Failing that, the EIS must address these potential impacts. The document identifies several species of seabirds that warrant protection under the Endangered Species Act and the International Migratory Species Act. Some of these species dive many feet underwater to find and catch fish. The EIS includes an acoustical/physiological</p>

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		<p>analysis addressing a range of impacts on marine mammals, from temporary hearing loss to mortality, as a function of the distance between the mammal and the transmitting sonar platform. But, the EIS asserts that no damage will be done to diving seabirds by high power sonar transmissions. We did not find any analysis to support that very unlikely conclusion. We urge that the likely impacts to seabirds be quantified and presented in the EIS. The EIS states "... military readiness activities are exempt from the take prohibitions of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act provided they do not result in a significant adverse effect on a population of a migratory seabird species." But, to satisfy NEPA, the EIS needs to assess, quantify, and present the likely impacts to these species, even if no mitigation will be required under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Otherwise reviewers will not be able to assess whether the project is likely to or not likely to result in a significant adverse effect on a population of a migratory seabird species or specific population of that species. The EIS mentions that marine mammals are detected by trained observers with binoculars. We urge that those observers also be trained to detect the listed threatened or endangered seabirds that are known to frequent the training and testing areas and that high power sonar transmissions be delayed while the threatened and endangered species are foraging within a range that could cause damage to the seabirds. MARINE MAMMAL IMPACT CONCLUSIONS ARE NOT SUPPORTED IN THE EIS The EIS states that trained sailors with binoculars can adequately detect marine mammals at an adequate range to be able to delay high power sonar transmissions so the marine mammals will not experience serious impacts. This may well be true under good conditions. However, the detection range will be significantly reduced under many circumstances such as darkness, high wind, high sea state, looking into the sun, etc. The data provided in Table 5.3-1: Detection Probability g(0) Values for Marine Mammal Species is largely meaningless in that it does not provide detection probability as a function of range, and it does not provide detection ranges for a range of conditions. The EIS must identify the probability that the lookout will detect each type of marine mammal at a range great enough to protect marine mammals from damage from sonar transmissions and the probability that the detection will not occur at a range that will allow avoidance of impacts to the marine mammals. Without such information, the conclusions of this EIS are simply unsupported allegations, which do not satisfy NEPA. The EIS also states t</p>
Pickard	Ken	<p><i>[Expletive deleted]</i> the U.S. Navy and their destructive little boy war games. Each separate war game activity needs independent environmental review. Perhaps, maybe some of them are innocuous. I doubt it. Since the U.S. Military is the biggest polluter in the world I don't expect much in the way of concern for the environment or species in it.</p>
Pinnisi	Kerry	<p>Cetaceans have been described as "non human persons" by scientists. I find this incredibly distressing and disgusting to be considered by my country.</p>
Pinto	Mary Ann	<p>Hopefully, there is a less costly and more humane way to go forward with this exercise. Thank you for your consideration.</p>
Pohl	Graham	<p>I hope the Navy is engaging this EIS process with a sincere desire to learn, and that the results will strongly influence Navy policy. Too often the attitude to this process is that it is simply a required protocol - a procedural hoop through which we must jump. Given the precarious state of global environmental conditions, particularly in the oceans, we can no longer afford to threaten ecosystems. There should be zero tolerance for permanent damage to sea mammals. The potential for secondary harm is too extreme to justify the risk.</p>
Pollman	Amy	<p>Our Earth is beautiful fascinating, and human being's existence relies completely on that of our planet. The Earth's delicate ecosystem can only exist because of all integral components contained within it. All parts of the ecosystem are needed to maintain homeostasis, human existence will cease to exist if we do not stop destroying the world we live in. War isn't necessary for coexistence among men, or any other life form. Destroying and permanently maiming such an enormous population, regardless of the species or form is just ignorant, we too will die with our planet. Stop being idiots. Put your weapons away. Stop killing..., us, our children, and our future.</p>
Pollock	Kevin	<p>I am asking that you think about life in all terms and that you stop your proposed testing as it affects us all. Thank You!!!</p>

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Pometta	Tawnia	<p>I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to PLEASE identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Tawnia Pometta</p>
Portman	Rebecca	<p>I urge you, in the proposal to conduct training exercises along the U.S. East Coast and in the rich marine environment off the coast of California and Hawaii, to please incorporate additional protective measures to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals from the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. Please do the right thing. Sincerely, Rebecca Portman</p>
Pothof-Barlow	Saskia	<p>Since the early stages of testing Low Frequency Sonar equipment in Hawaii I have been extremely concerned about the effects of the Navy's activities on the health of the dolphin and whale populations. I have personally been involved in disentangling a dolphin from a fishing line in Hawaii and freeing humpback whales from fishing nets in Mexico and in both these encounters it was clear that I was working with sentient beings, highly evolved mammals who were actively cooperating and receptive to communication that allowed us to work on cutting the netting. The Navy's argument in the Environmental Impact Study that for most species the activities may cause harm and possibly death to individual animals but not affect the population as a whole to me is no more a reassurance as it would be to say that the activities of the Navy (in time of peace) may harm or kill individuals of a population of humans but not the population as a whole. It is UNACCEPTABLE to me that in the name of 'defense' we invade the living environment of cetaceans and pollute it with sound that effects their ability to 'hear', navigate, and can cause irreparable damage and death. In the EIS the Navy states they strive to be 'good neighbors', yet invading and polluting the environment of defenseless but highly intelligent and evolved marine mammals does not establish good neighbor manners at all. As a leading nation in the international whaling agreements we will completely lose our credibility if we are questioning other country's right to "take" whales and dolphins (read: Kill) for commercial, or "research" purposes, while we ourselves allow our Navy to harm and kill whales and dolphins. We as humans have a choice to not knowingly permeate the ocean, an environment that we share with other evolved mammals, with sounds that will harm and potentially kill them. I herewith express my sincere concern and objection to deploying the testing as proposed in areas known to be frequently traveled by whales and dolphins or within effective range of whales and dolphins, unless it is a time of war with imminent threat. Please limit Navy sound testing to areas outside the known paths of migration, reproduction and feeding of whales and dolphins and other affected marine mammals. Please also require scanning for the presence of marine mammals within the disturbance zone prior to testing and delay testing until the marine mammals depart from the affected area. Unless the rights of these</p>

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		marine mammals are respected, I cannot condone Navy sound testing. Sincerely, Saskia A. Pothof
Powe	Diana	While I am far from completely informed about the issue, I feel compelled to note that I think that it is vital that the Navy take its responsibilities to mitigate environmental effects from this work very seriously.
Prell	Leanna	Please consider our precious environment and don't harm the ocean's inhabitants.
Price	Laurie	The US Navy has updated their estimates on how much and how many whales and dolphins would be impacted by the use of sonar and explosives in the ocean between Hawaii and southern California. This is another unbelievable tragedy that doesn't have to happen: if you or I were stunned into blindness for 10 minutes while walking on a street, it's not so unlikely that we might be killed by a car. Why are we doing this to the dolphins? I don't see the benefit in harming these creatures who have proven to be both intelligent and peaceful. We are the ones responsible for the wise stewardship of this amazing and beautiful planet Earth we call home, since dolphins and other creatures obviously cannot advocate for themselves. The damage already done and continuing to be done to our planet is making our "home" less habitable. Please consider changing this policy of using sonar and explosives in the Pacific Ocean. Fukushima has already done enough damage.
Pringle	Valerie	Do not continue to harm whales, dolphins, and other sea animals with your explosives. My tax dollars should not support harming innocent animals because you can get away with it. You should be ashamed of yourselves!
Printz	Debbie	please dont do this
Pupo	Cathy	I am saddened to hear that the Navy is considering conducting exercises involving the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. Do you feel that it is really necessary to conduct this testing that will affect such a volume of marine life? It would be a great pity to see so much of the conservation work the USA has undertaken towards its marine environment over the last number of years being undermined by these proposed exercises. These conservation initiatives deserve to be applauded and have made the USA one of the leaders in marine conservation. To conduct these exercises flies in the face of all the good work and progress that has been achieved to date. There is also the issue of sound channels in the oceans that can carry sounds over vast distances, so not only local populations may be affected but also populations in areas seemingly far removed from the testing activities. As these activities could potentially affect endangered species on both the high seas and possibly in the territorial waters of other nations we believe that any other nations that could potentially be affected should be fully consulted, and the findings of any such consultations made public, prior to any decision being made on whether these activities should progress to the next stage. I would ask you to give serious consideration to just how necessary these proposed exercises are and where the benefits of them lie versus the destruction of marine life that so many dedicated citizens have worked tirelessly to preserve and enhance for both current and future generations. Cathy Pupo & Family
Pusch	Amanda	Do Not use Sonar in the Ocean. It is murderous, and much marine life is protected. This Sonar must stop now.
Puzzuoli	Michele	Please do not conduct further tests around Hawaii and her islands as well as California. It so tragic how you're military sonar and the like is affecting area marine life.
Quirk, MD	Ninu-Alexandri	I am writing in reference to sonar. The new Navy report that reveals how millions of whales and dolphins may be harmed by sonar testing is very concerning. Here in Hawaii we are a whale birthing ground, and the whales and dolphins are protected by law. These beautiful creatures not only have an important place in the marine ecosystem, they also bring millions of tourist dollars into Hawaii. So please, for our sake as well as for their's, create a sonar free zone in Hawaii and find a way to test your equipment that will not harm any sea creatures. I also wanted to say thank you for all that you do in protecting America and Hawaii. You guys rock!
Rainwater	Gregg	To Whom It May Concern, I'm writing to ask you to not harm our remaining sea mammals with Navy sonar and explosives. Just go to youtube, search for videos involving dolphins, whales and humans...esp when humans have stepped in to save whales that have been caught in fishing nets. There is an amazing communion between species that one wouldn't expect...in the past. They are

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		amazing creatures. Dolphins have saved human beings as well. I'd like to think if I was ever in trouble at sea, assistance by dolphin would be possible. That could only happen if we protect them. Please find alternatives to your damaging sonar and explosives. Thanks, Gregg Rainwater
Ramakrishna	Sujatha	Please stop using sonar and explosives that kill dolphins and whales. Thank you.
		I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. We only have 1 earth and we have to take care of it! I hope the Navy heeds our call.
Ramirez	Kira	
Rance	Rhonda	Please, the cost to marine life, the fragile eco systems and indeed our survival as a species is too great. These mad practices of war against each other and the degradation and destruction of our planet must cease and desist immediately. Thank you.
		Please consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed.
Randazzo	Joanna	
Randolph	Shirley	Now that we know and understand how intelligent and how sensitive these animals are, we can not in good conscience subject them to explosives or military training exercises that would impact their safety or well being. These animals have helped the Navy in the past. We owe it to them to be considerate of their lives and health. Now we must help them.
Ransom	Julia	Navy - Do not take. The world only works by giving. You give us nothing by taking what you propose. You take more than you will ever guess which is not your right. And you know it. Back off.
Rasmussen	Pat	Whales and dolphins communicate by sonar and your sonar can kill them. NO MORE SONAR TESTING!!! You kill whales and dolphins. STOP NOW!!
		Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I attended the session in Hilo, Hawai'i and was impressed by the willingness of the presenters to explain the Navy's. Setting up informational posters in a large room with the experts standing by to answer questions was very successful, and I would encourage the Navy to use it in the future. I cannot agree with the Navy's dismissal of the impacts that will inevitably affect the whales and dolphins due to the training exercises. I am grateful for the willingness of Naval commanders and personnel to take on difficult missions to protect our country, but the area is vast, the list of marine mammals is long, and the remoteness of the area means that the full impacts to animals are unlikely ever
Reeve	Lora	

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		<p>to be completely known. I would urge the more expansive application of the precautionary approach to increase the margin for error. Sound travels very far and very fast in the ocean, and many marine mammals live very cryptic lives. At the event in Hilo, I was assured that it is possible to know where the animals are during the Navy's exercises, but my experience as a cetacean biologist tells me otherwise. Even allowing for classified state-of-the-art equipment aboard Naval vessels, beaked whales are notoriously difficult to detect as they spend long periods at depth, very little time at the surface, and have low body profiles when they are at the surface. Look-outs aboard ship will simply miss seeing the great majority of beaked whales no matter how dedicated or well-trained the sailors are.</p> <p>1. In footnote 1, I suggest that "explosive" and "high explosive" not be used interchangeably throughout the document, as they are not exactly the same thing.</p> <p>2. In Table 3.4-1, regarding the last column denoting ESA/MMPA status for the included species, some changes would make the information clearer: a. As much of the training area is located in the high seas beyond national jurisdiction and the DEIS acknowledges this fact by using the designation OEIS, the status of each species according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List could also be given. Most of the species have the same status under the ESA and the Red List, but this would give more credibility. b. The spaces for species that are "data deficient" according to IUCN are currently filled by a " – " with no indication of what this means. I suggest that this leads to the mistaken impression that the species with this designation are not endangered or threatened, when that is simply not the case. Not enough is known about these species to make a determination of their status, and this could be clarified. As data are scarce on these species, the precautionary approach could be applied to ensure a margin of error. 3. Also regarding Table 3.4-1, the higher uncertainty CV in the stock assessments could be highlighted to indicate the low confidence in the figures. As the CVs range from 0.07 to 1.43, it is obvious that not all stock assessments are of equal value to decision-makers or commenters, and this could be made clearer. 4. All cetaceans found within a group may not be alike in their contributions to the group. New research suggests that animals may take on specialized roles and that impact to these animals may be more detrimental to the group as a whole. While the Navy cannot tell by observation which animals fulfill which roles, this knowledge lends more support for use of the precautionary approach. 5. Overall, I am very impressed to see that the DEIS is excellently footnoted with references and explanations. This increases the credibility of the document in the eyes of the public, scientists, and skeptics, and I appreciate the effort. 6. It is important to make the point that the tests for odontocete temporary and permanent threshold shift were conducted on a very limited number of subjects, for instance one false killer whale. This violates the scientific method at its very basis and is further support for application of the precautionary approach. Two suggestions proceed from these circumstances: a. We must be skeptical of the results of biological studies with only one subject. The findings must be considered anecdotal evidence at best and applied with much precaution if at all. The argument that "this is all we have" may be the worst one possible, as it may prevent acknowledgement of the inadequacy of the research design and give decision-makers the false sense that they are basing decisions on sound science. The models of behavioral changes and other impacts are only as good as the data they are based upon. b. As the Navy is the major funder of marine mammal research, the Navy could shift the focus of research into marine mammal hearing capabilities away from captive cetaceans – which all too often is based on a very small number of animal – to populations in the wild. This would yield credible and usable scientific results for decision-makers.</p>
Reever	Janette	<p>I have always been proud to be a NAVY family - please keep your faith in the Navy to consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or</p>

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		killed.
Reid	Sarah	KILLING OR HARMING INNOCENT ANIMALS - OR ANYTHING FOR THAT MATTER - IS TOTALLY UNCONSCIONABLE AND WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!!!! ALL ANIMALS NEED OUR PROTECTION. WILD ANIMALS SHOULD BE LEFT ALONE IN THE WILD WHERE THEY BELONG, NOT TOYED WITH BY HUMAN BEINGS. NAIVE HUMANS, WITH SHORT SIGHTED ACTIONS, WHO DO NOT KNOW THAT IT IS WRONG TO KILL ANY CREATURE NEEDLESSLY, MUST BE EDUCATED. SOLUTIONS MUST BE FOUND THAT ALLOW ALL CREATURES TO COEXIST. THE PLANET'S ECOSYSTEMS DEMAND THIS BALANCE.
Reier	Kathleen	Please reconsider your training tactics along Cali and Hawaii. Having worked very closely with the Spinner dolphins in Hawaii and the many other dolphins and whales that pass through those waters, I can't tell you enough how incredible they are. Their intelligence and beauty bring so much joy and awe to all that encounter them. The Spinners only have the Hawaiian island to call home. Should you train in the way you plan off the coast of Hawaii, those Spinners will have no where to escape to and no home to return to, should they survive at all. Please reconsider your training plans and take these incredible creatures into consideration. It has been proven that sonar, explosions and other Navy exercises seriously, and often fatally, harm the marine mammals in the area. Thank you.
Retter	Valerie	There must be alternatives to this training & testing that is horrific for our magnificent & precious ocean animals.
Reynolds	Jeff	My family has been involved in the military for many years, indeed we have ancestors who served on the Virginia Line in the Revolution. I fully understand the need to protect our waters, but that also means to be a proper steward of the bounty that God has afforded the world. While I can see that there is a need for limited testing of naval weaponry, to do so with a sense of impunity is flouting our responsibility of that stewardship and besmirches the record of the U. S. Navy. We can test, but to a limited degree, and in limited locales that have a minimal effect on cetacean life. The oceans are huge. Remember that the concept of shipping in convoys during World War 2 was developed by mathematicians who recognized counterintuitively that if many ships steamed together, there was that much more oceanic vastness that ships were not in, and were therefore safer from detection and attack. So think, this concept is possible to apply in a way to cetacean protection. Find areas where whales and dolphins don't tend to congregate, breed, gestate, and give birth. Locate tracts of open sea that avoid their migratory routes. Add to the pride of our Naval Forces by instigating plans to protect our wildlife. Lead the world, not only in naval power, but in naval responsibility by showing how it can be done, and set an example for other countries, and for those who come after us. Set standards for ocean wildlife protection that speak to and enhance the heritage that John Paul Jones began. Stop it now.
Reynolds	Matthew	I am against the useless killing of marine mammals (or any other marine life) for the purpose of military testing and urge those that are able to stop this barbarism at once.
Rice	Charles	Since marine mammals cannot speak for themselves, it is up to those of us who deeply care about their welfare to do so. "The Navy's report states that the exercises could cause 1,600 marine mammals to suffer from hearing loss or other injury from its use of sonar and explosives each year for the next five years. The report also projects that 200 marine mammals will die each year." This, in effect, equates to the needless slaughter of those marine mammals. Either cease testing or find a means of testing that does not compromise the health and lives of these great creatures of the sea.
Rice	Ronda	No Authority on Earth has the right to tell others to commit crimes against wisdom. Doing anything that that is potentially harmful to the balance and well-being of Sea Life is such an act. We the people of this Earth ask all those with conscience to stand united in saying "No More" to anything that harms the Earth and all those who dwell here. The time is now and the support is there for all of us to realize a way of being on this Earth that honors all life. Only through this way of being, can we sustain our own. We are united in the circle of life. When we harm one, we harm the whole. We are all Sacred. Thank you
Rice	Ronda	No Authority on Earth has the right to tell others to commit crimes against wisdom.

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		Doing anything that that is potentially harmful to the balance and well-being of Sea Life is such an act. We the people of this Earth ask all those with conscience to stand united in saying "No More" to anything that harms the Earth and all those who dwell here. The time is now and the support is there for all of us to realize a way of being on this Earth that honors all life. Only through this way of being, can we sustain our own. We are united in the circle of life. When we harm one, we harm the whole. We are all Sacred. Thank you
Richards	Mark	I am a consulting mechanical engineer involved with the design and installation of HVAC systems in this area. I have become aware of some unique situations involving suspected electronic interference with some of our systems installed along the coastal region of San Diego. Specifically, remote controlled HVAC equipment (Daikin VRV systems) have a "mind of their own" at various times, often cycling on-off without being commanded by the local controller. Upon being cycled off, the unit promptly cycles on again and vice versa. The solution to the problem, in this case, was done by eliminating the remote control and going with a hard wired control. Based on other bizarre local observations with respect to garage door openers, the general consensus is that there are some unique electrical interference issues. It is unclear what the source of this interference is, however, I believe that you should be made aware of it and take steps to ensure that the proposed activities are sensitive to EMF issues for commercial and residential remotely controlled systems such as the ones discussed here. Should you have any questions, please email or call. Respectfully submitted, Mark E. Richards, P.E.
Richardson	Dana	The use of your sonar and explosives will harm thousands of marine life, much more that you are estimating in your plans! Hawaii has 32 species of whale and dolphin year round, many of which are very rare and deep diving whales who depend upon their sonar for survival. Your sonar and explosive practice is going to harm and kill off many of the species we work so hard to protect here under the marine mammal protection act. You MUST find another way to practice your naval techniques without killing or harming animals and sea life that we NEED for our survival here on land. Do NOT use your sonar plans!!!!
Ridabock	Zoe	Unthinkable. Shame on the people creating this.
Riedel	Patricia	PLEASE do NOT do the ocean testing. You state in your video your mission is to provide freedom of the seas. Please understand this needs to apply to animals too - all life - not just to humans. Trying to bring peace through the suffering of others is not the answer. Being kind to all of life is. Please work together towards that objective in order to bring about peace. Warfare escalates killing and damaging more and more people, animals and the earth itself. This is a fact. History proves it. The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result. Please let us open to new ways to live together in the world. Thank you for considering my comment.
Riess	Renee	Please find another way to accomplish the testing and training necessary without a negative impact on the oceans ecosystem. Thank you.
Rillero	Anne	I am strongly opposed to the Navy's proposed testing in Hawaii and California due to the possible adverse impacts on whales and dolphins.
Rizzi	Tricia	Please consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed.
Roach	Kathleen	The Navy's report states that the exercises could cause 1,600 marine mammals to suffer from hearing loss or other injury from its use of sonar and explosives each year for the next five years. The report also projects that 200 marine mammals will die each year. Whales use their hearing to communicate with each other and their survival is dependent on their hearing. Please rethink ways of doing these tests!
Roberts	Leona	Your testing will irreparably harm ocean life. It's highly likely that the creatures who use and require echolocation for survival are not the only lifeforms who will be affected, whether it be mildly or terminally! Please stop these tests altogether!

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		Please stop this destruction! PLEASE!!! We are supposed to be intelligent beings!
Roberts	Martha	I support the efforts of the Humane Society of the US, who have joined other environmental and animal welfare groups to ask the Navy to consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. Please consider incorporating these additional measures in order to save marine life. Thank you, Martha Roberts
Robertson	Sally	These tests that deafening large sea creatures is inhumane. Please stop the madness.
Robles	Brenda	I understand the need for protecting our country, but we can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures. In the past, whales have stranded and died in the wake of major military sonar exercises, with bleeding from the ears and other tissue damage attributed to sonar. These have included incidents of beaked whales dying in the Canary Islands following sonar exercises, the panicked flight of orcas and porpoises off Washington State in 2003, and dozens of whales (including pregnant females) from several species who died in North Carolina in 2005. These tragedies can be avoided to a very significant degree. I ask the Navy to consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. Please do what is right. I am calling on the U.S. Navy to re-think its plans and to incorporate additional protective measures. Sincerely, Brenda Robles
Rodriguez	Joan f	Protect marine mammals from explosives and sonar along the East Coast» and California/Hawaii. I am opposed to all testing where animals can be harmed what is wrong with you people our food is becoming extinct our water and air is becoming poisoned. what do you think life will live on???????????
Rodriguez	Kukana	The Navy's DEIS is fatally flawed and fails to comply with the basic requirements of NEPA. The Navy's assessment of impacts is consistently undermined by its failure to meet these fundamental responsibilities of scientific integrity, methodology, investigation, and disclosure. The Navy must revise its acoustic impacts analysis, including its thresholds and risk function, to comply with NEPA. The Navy fails to properly analyze impacts on marine mammals. For example Sonar impacts on cetaceans that are the likely cause of mass strandings are panic, bubble formation and/or decompression sickness. The following must be included in the DEIS: 1) Sonar caused panic reactions leading to strandings followed by death 2) Sonar caused decompression sickness (the bends) followed by death 3) The bends caused by sonar even in the absence of panic The following scientific papers need to be included in the EIS: J. R. POTTER;, 'A Possible Mechanism for Acoustic Triggering of Decompression Sickness Symptoms in Deep-Diving Marine Mammals' Paper presented at the IEEE International Symposium on Underwater Technology 2004, Taipei Taiwan, April 2004. PARSONS, E. C. M.; SARAH J. DOLMAN; ANDREW J. WRIGHT; NAOMI A. ROSE and W. C. G. BURNS. MARINE POLLUTION BULLETIN 56(7):1248-1257. 2008. Navy sonar and cetaceans: Just how much does the gun need to smoke before we act? TYACK, PETER L. JOURNAL OF MAMMALOGY 89(32):549-558. 2008. Implications for marine mammals of large-scale changes in the marine acoustic environment. WRIGHT, A. J.; N. AGUILAR SOTO; A. BALDWIN; M. BATESON; C. BEALE; C. CLARK; T. DEAK; E. EDWARDS; A. FERNANDEZ; A. GODINHO; L. HATCH; A. KAKUSCHKE; D. LUSSEAU; D. MARTINEAU; L. ROMERO; L. WEILGART; B. WINTLE; G. NOTARBARTOLO DI SCIARA and V. MARTIN. INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF COMPARATIVE PSYCHOLOGY 20(2-3):274- 316. 2007. Do

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		<p>marine mammals experience stress related to anthropogenic noise? FAERBER, M .M., R. W. BAIRD. 2010. Does a lack of observed beaked whale strandings in military exercise areas mean no impacts have occurred? A comparison of stranding and detection probabilities in the Canary and main Hawaiian Islands. Marine Mammal Science DOI: 10.1111/j.1748-7692.2010.00370.x The DEIS fails to address the following: other impacts on marine mammals such as stress, indirect effects, cumulative impacts, effects of toxic chemicals, hazardous materials and waste oil spills. The Navy must adequately evaluate impacts and propose mitigation for each category of harm for all species marine life. Each individual potentially federal activity that is to have a significant environmental impact should have its own environmental analysis. For example, RIMPAC and DARPA each need separate EIS's. The Navy failed to analyze the impacts on fish and fisheries. Om gum ganapatayei namaha</p>
Rogers	Puanani	<p>HAWAII-SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA TRAINING AND TESTING (HSTT) ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/OVERSEAS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS/OEIS) Open House Public Meeting Comments from Lihue, Kauai, June 12, 2012 (This is an addition to my oral testimony given on June 12th) Aloha! My name is Puanani Rogers, and I was born and raised in the ahupua`a of Kealia on the island of Kauai. I am Kanaka maoli, a true native of Hawai`i. What you call the State of Hawaii is actually an illegal entity with no legal jurisdiction in Hawaii. Ko Hawaii Pae `Aina is the name of my country and it is still in existence. We are a neutral and peace-abiding country and therefore, we are outraged about your plans to train and test your war weapons in our country's surrounding ocean waters and deliberately cause harm to our planet and all living things that live upon it. I cannot understand why it has to be here or anywhere, for that matter; because you know deep down in your guts that it WILL cause harm to corals, whales and dolphins, natural resources, ocean minerals, and all living creatures in our archipelago, and most importantly, human life. WE STRONGLY OPPOSE THIS EIS AND ITS INTENT!! IT LACKS TRUTH AND IS A BAD IDEA! I hope you will respond to the question of whether you are in compliance with the mission of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) and its Section 106 process. It is a federal mandate that you should be aware of. (See testimony from Ed Kaiwi.) I expect a response to this question, please. People in our communities are AGAINST FURTHER expansion of your presence in the Pacific and beg you to stay away from our islands and do your war deeds where there will be less harm to the environment. We already know for a fact that the U.S. military has proven to be the worse and most insidious POLLUTION dealers on our planet. Examples are, Kaho`olawe island, Makua Valley, Pohakuloa, etc. in Hawai`i; Vieques Island, in Puerto Rico; Bikini and Eniwetok islands in the Republic of the Marshall Islands. This show of military dictatorship needs to cease and desist. Instead we ask that moneys expended for this project be used in projects that insure peace, benefits and well being for our people. Please stop the destruction of a living planet, yours as well as ours. Be responsible, do what is righteous and protect not destroy. Puanani Rogers, Kanaka maoli Ho`okipa Network – Kauai Ko Hawai`I Pae `Aina</p>
Rohmer	Gabrielle	<p>Please, do not do this. A deaf whale is a dead whale. I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These</p>

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		<p>same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.</p>
Rome	Karen	<p>I am imploring the U.S. Navy to re-think its plans to conduct training exercises all along the U.S. East Coast and off the coast of California and Hawaii and to incorporate additional protective measures. I know that the United States needs a strong Navy to protect our national security, but the exercises you are planning which involve the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar are not the answer. I know that the Navy anticipates that these exercises would kill up to 2,000 marine mammals including a large number of endangered species and would include thousands of others that would suffer permanent lung damage and would permanently or temporarily deafen others. There is no reason that these mammals have to die or suffer this senseless damage to their bodies when you can lessen the impact of this damage by avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors, avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas, creating a large safety zone around these exercises and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. These simple steps would allow for your military training exercises to go on while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins and porpoises might be harmed or killed. If you must conduct these exercises, please do it in a compassionate way for the sake of the health of these creatures. The whales, dolphins and porpoises deserve to live and to have a healthy ocean environment. Please show some compassion to these creatures when conducting these exercises. It is the right thing to do.</p>
Romer	Abel	<p>There is much we don't know about whales but we do know they are highly intelligent, social, highly evolved mammals. We know their brains have as much or more surface area than ours which suggests their intelligence may parallel ours though it may be a very different kind of intelligence. Many marine mammal species are endangered because of human impacts upon their environment or hunting. Some whale populations which were in the past endangered are just beginning to return because of education and protection. We have no right to knowingly permanently injure these living creatures who never purposefully injure humans unless first provoked. The Navy has admitted that the sonar tests will cause harm to whales and dolphins ranging from discomfort to disorientation to permanent deafness which would interfere with navigation, self defense and finding food thereby seriously impairing their ability to survive. Increased beaching and deaths of marine mammals have certainly been linked to previous Navy sound testing. Unless it is a time of war with imminent threat these tests should not be performed in areas known to be frequently passaged by whales and dolphins or within effective range of whales and dolphins. Please limit Navy sound testing to areas outside the known paths of migration, reproduction and feeding of whales and dolphins and other effected marine mammals. Please also require scanning for the presence of marine mammals within the disturbance zone prior to testing and delay testing until the marine mammals depart from the affected area. Unless the rights of these marine mammals are respected, I cannot condone Navy sound testing.</p>
Rook	Stacey	<p>Please do not use the ocean for military testing. Sonar and explosives have detrimental affect on ocean inhabitants. Thank you.</p>
Rosenwinkel	Julie	<p>Please stop the use of sonar and explosives in our oceans! If we keep killing ocean life, we will not need the navy to protect people because we won't be here to protect!</p>
Roth	Christine	<p>As the daughter of a fighter pilot, I understand the need for protecting our country, but I am hoping that we can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures. For that reason, I am writing ask the Navy to re-think its plans</p>

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		<p>and to incorporate additional protective measures as it conducts training exercises involving explosives/sonar along the U.S. East Coast and in the rich marine environment off the coast of California and Hawaii. According to its own Environmental Impact Statements, the Navy estimates that the planned exercises would kill up to 2,000 marine mammals, including a large number of animals from endangered species, such as right whales. Thousands of others would suffer permanent lung damage. An additional 16,000 would be permanently deafened and 5 million would be temporarily deafened by the exercises.</p>
Rouse	Consuwella	<p>I am writing today to ask that the Navy protect marine mammals from explosives and sonar along the East Coast and California/Hawaii. We know that in the past, whales have stranded and died in the wake of major military sonar exercises, with bleeding from the ears and other tissue damage attributed to sonar. These have included incidents of beaked whales dying in the Canary Islands following sonar exercises, the panicked flight of orcas and porpoises off Washington State in 2003, and dozens of whales (including pregnant females) from several species who died in North Carolina in 2005. These tragedies can be avoided to a very significant degree. Please consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. I respectfully request that the Navy re-think its plans and to incorporate additional protective measures.</p>
Royster	Dawn	<p>Please consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals when conducting your training activities on the Hawaiian coast and Western shores of the US. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. You can continue doing the invaluable work you do to protect our country AND protect animals as well. The two can coexist.</p>
Ruehle	Laurel	<p>I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. I suggest that the Navy work together with ocean scientists and environmentalists to effect a solution which would be satisfactory to all. Thank you for the opportunity to</p>

Last Name	First Name	Comment
		comment.
Ruth	Jayson	As a southern California resident, I am extremely concerned about the NAVY's new plans to increase the use of sonar at the expense of stressing / harming and killing marine mammals such as dolphins and whales. Although, I recognize the importance of having a strong military that uses the latest technology, this should not come at an increased risk to protected marine mammals. Whales and dolphins are already facing many direct and indirect threats to survival due to commercial fishing, pollution and global warming. Since these organisms depend so highly on sound for their survival, it is unacceptable to directly and intentionally harm them. Please consider alternatives that are less intrusive to the lifestyles of these highly social and intelligent cetaceans. Sincerely, Jayson Ruth
Ryan	Patrick	I appreciate that the Navy is continuing to look at the issue of long range sonar effects on marine mammals. I note a story using the Navy's own data recently appeared that raised the estimates of marine mammal deaths. The story is available here - Navy Study: Marine Mammals Harmed By Training Navy Calculates 200 Marine Mammals Could Die Each Year Due To Training POSTED: 5:40 pm PDT May 11, 2012 UPDATED: 5:45 pm PDT May 11, 2012 http://www.10news.com/news/31051399/detail.html I am sure with so many clever individuals you can figure out some better way to handle this issue. Let's face facts - your navy is the best in the world, and does not need this to remain so. If it happens that there is a wartime effort that arises that necessitates the use of this technology, I'm sure a case can be made to the public at that time to do so. But in peacetime (or at least, peacetime on the high seas) this is unneeded and actively harmful. Don't do it. Thanks, Patrick Ryan
Sacksteder	Victoria	According to the U.S. Navy's own estimates, the use of high-frequency underwater sound for testing in Hawaii, off the California and Atlantic Coasts, and in the Gulf of Mexico will deafen 15,900 whales and dolphins and kill 1,800 more over the next five years. Whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate and live. I respectfully request that the Navy stop the process that has the potential to kill 1,800 whales and dolphins and the deafen 15,900 more by ceasing the operation of the Navy's underwater sound system in the Hawaiian Islands, the California and Atlantic Coasts, and the Gulf of Mexico. There has to be a better way to achieve the necessary work without this type of specific type of testing. We have brilliant scientists who I'm confident can find another way to achieve the stated goals in a more humane and thoughtful manner.
Sadarangani	Anil	Please stop with exercises. The Navy will be responsible for 1,600 marine mammals to suffer from hearing loss or other injury. Specially avoid explosives.
Saez	Roxana	Dear US NAVY, I am very upset about the practices taken to conduct training exercises in the US Navy. It does not matter that this is the "way you have always done it." In this day and age, there MUST be another way to practice your exercises without any injuries to our mammals. PLEASE, do not just FOLLOW PROTOCOL. Take action to make a CHANGE. We care and this really is upsetting to many people. thank you.
Salazar	Cheri	To Whom It Concerns: I'm really against any type of testing that kills, maims and abuses marine life. With the potential outcome of deafness, you don't know what could happen to the ecosystem. Don't mess it up. Please try to find another way to test these explosives. I can't believe in 2012 that that task would be impossible.
Salonek	Deborah	Please stop the testing of sonar and explosives on marine life. These gentle creatures deserve to live a life of peace not be part of a barbaric Govt' test.
Salvo	Linda	Please stop the underwater testing in the Hawaii areas. These are beautiful creatures that God has given us to enjoy and you are endangering their well being. Future generations will no be able to enjoy them as we do. Please re-think this.
Salvo-Eaton	Jennifer	Please do not go through with actions that are "likely to adversely affect" an endangered species. I know it's the military, but how heartless can you be? You wouldn't kick an injured animal, so why would you "kick" a suffering population of animals? I think if the Navy proceeds with this course of action, I will lose faith in humanity altogether. Can't you find another test site? One that's far away from whale migration routes and breeding or feeding grounds? It's really asinine that I pay taxes and I have to explain the stupidity of this plan to you. Like explaining something simple to my toddler.

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Sapiro	Anne	Please cease & desist your destructive sonar testing. I have observed its consequences along with the US Navy's attempt to cover up the damage. Navy promotion of sonar testing is self-serving--for the good of the Navy, NOT for the good of the USA or what the USA treasures or stands for. Nobody on the face of the earth has reeked greater havoc in Hawaii than the U.S. Navy, bombing Kahoolawe and killing marine mammals--and causing more long term damage to Pearl Harbor than the Japanese attack. Anti-fouling bottom paint is mostly copper sulphate, rendering all reefs in the vicinity severely compromised or dead. The cold war is over. Stop your destructive testing. You should protect and defend the US from its enemies. You should be ashamed for this. You are wrong to think my assessment is isolated. Sonar testing has sullied the name & reputation of the U.S. Navy. Stop.
Sapiro	Anne	Please do not move forward with your plans to "test" underwater explosives in and around the Hawaiian Islands. Knowing that these explosions will be killing, maiming and injuring the whales, dolphins and many other creatures that inhabit these waters MUST cause you to rethink this concept. These waters have been safe haven for these, our fellow intelligent beings; where they come to have their babies and nurture them. How can the Navy, and the men and women who serve therein be so calculatingly cruel about these deaths and injuries? How can these inevitable deaths and injuries be considered ok on any level? I am horrified to know that this is how our government spends our money in the guise of "protecting" it's citizens.
Saunders	Vicky	We are saddened to hear that the Navy is considering conducting exercises involving the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. Do you feel that it is really necessary to conduct this testing that will affect such a volume of marine life? It would be a great pity to see so much of the conservation work the USA has undertaken towards its marine environment over the last number of years being undermined by these proposed exercises. These conservation initiatives deserve to be applauded and have made the USA one of the leaders in marine conservation. To conduct these exercises flies in the face of all the good work and progress that has been achieved to date. There is also the issue of sound channels in the oceans that can carry sounds over vast distances, so not only local populations may be affected but also populations in areas seemingly far removed from the testing activities. As these activities could potentially affect endangered species on both the high seas and possibly in the territorial waters of other nations we believe that any other nations that could potentially be affected should be fully consulted, and the findings of any such consultations made public, prior to any decision being made on whether these activities should progress to the next stage. We would ask you to give serious consideration to just how necessary these proposed exercises are and where the benefits of them lie versus the destruction of marine life that so many dedicated citizens have worked tirelessly to preserve and enhance for both current and future generations. We look forward to hearing from you with your views on the above, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us, yours, V. Saunders
Saylor	Cassie	Using sonar and explosives around this beautiful island of ours, just for the sake of game and practise, is UNACCEPTABLE. Openly stating that this will kill and or injure our ocnlife is just blatant disrespect. We need to appreciate how much a healthy Eco system does for us as humans as well as islanders. Our oceanlife.already have enough to deal with concerning radiation, pollution, poaching as well as just plain ignorance. Leave these UNnecessary tactics to warfare away from our vital foodsources and delicate ecosystems. Wake up people...these things are way more important than a govnrment written paycheck.
Schaeffer	Joan	Protect our whales and dolphins! Do not allow anything to interfere with this vital goal!
Schendel	Eileen	Training exercises done in the Pacific region by the US Navy should be done with thought to the marine life dwelling in those regions. With planning compassion can be shown. Isn't that a quality that goes with greatness?
Schiess	Joan	Dear Sirs; Please do everything you can to save all the sea life when you conduct your tests in the oceans. We have already lost so many dolphins, whales and calves to sonar testing, fishing trawler lines and other environmental causes like plastics in the oceans. We should not have to choose between marine life and

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		national security. Surely we can work together to minimize the impacts on these magnificent creatures. Thanks for your consideration. Joan Schiess
Schoenacher	Ann	It is an outrage that the U.S. Navy would continue its plan to use sonar testing, testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. Proposed training and testing off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. Projected damage to whales and dolphins -- through your own impact statements -- is astounding and vastly increased over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. Your analysis does not include reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Stationing lookouts to detect whales and dolphins -- your sorry mitigation plan -- will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance is likely to be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. Even if it were fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, rather than savage torturers, it must reduce significantly the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
Schultz	Maria	It is everybody's job to protect the very little nature left on this planet before it's too late. Please consider safer alternatives.
Schunk	Holly	I am saddened by the thought that the Navy, knowing full well, what it's actions can do to whales, dolphins and other sea life, will continue on their path of destruction, by repeatedly broad-casting high-intensity sound waves into the ocean, (home) of these mammals. Yes, the ocean is their home. They cannot escape to save themselves from these horrible sounds. They cannot escape from the dizziness they must feel as it turns them upside down not knowing where to go. They need their sonar to communicate and to find food. But you'd be taking this away from them. They won't be able to feed themselves or their babies, because they will either be dead on impact or will drown, trying to escape the terrible, deafening noise. Imagine, if you will, having the worst case of dizziness you have ever had and not being able to get away from it. You know that old saying when your on board a ship and you get the worst case of sea sickness that you want to die...the saying goes that you're afraid that you WON'T die ! It's that bad. I can only imagine if I were the whales, that the sonar waves would effect me like dizziness. As a human that is the best analogy I can come up with. History has shown that the whales will do whatever they can to get away from these man made high density sounds...and that is to beach themselves, to get out of the water, which is a death sentence since they can't live out of the water. How can you live with your selves, knowing this ? Where are your hearts ? I read about a woman who attended a Kauai meeting, that the Navy people presented. She said they seemed nice, kind and even caring about the whales. But she came away with the stark reality that these people (the Navy personal) had turned away, turned off their hearts, in order to be part of the Navy. How can you be human and not have a heart? Please come back, come back from the reality that the mammals that die are simply "collateral". Please wake up from this. This is a lie. These are your fellow creatures that happen to live in the ocean, your neighbors, your friends even. Remember, as a child, drawing pictures of your friends the whales, dolphins, sea turtles and fish? Remember the rainbow you always drew as they jumped out of the water, in happiness ? You knew, as a child, that they were your friends. Don't turn your back on them now that you are grown up. Be that child again, with all the important things you learned about taking care of our planet and the animals that live in it. Look down, you have a heart still..., it's beating, it has emotion, it has

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		compassion. Please friends, remember you are a compassionate person. Don't allow this to happen. It's not to late. As with all things, there are alternatives. You are smart, please use your brain to come up with another way. Listen to the cry's of the animals. They need you to protect them. You don't want these animals to be SO dizzy that they want to die and will. Do you, would you ? You have a heart, follow it back to your child like self again. Do the RIGHT thing. The whales need you. Don't close your eyes. Please, listen to your heart, just like you use to. Will you ? Mahalo and Aloha.
Scott	Debra	Please stop this horrible act!!!
Scott	Debra	The United States has regularly and publicly denounced Japan for harvesting whales. Why does the U.S. Navy deem it acceptable to take just as many whales as Norway, Iceland, and Japan combined? What underwater threats are so great to our country that the U.S. is willing to adversely affect endangered species on a such a large scale? It is hypocritical to decry Japan while at the same time causing such harm that it further endangers listed species and prevents the recovery of the species.
Scott	Debra	What percent of the whales' population (by species) is being impacted? The sonar/electromagnetic training will adversely impact whales, which will affect their ability to eat, breed, navigate, etc. These negative impacts will directly hurt the current populations which reduce their reproductive capabilities. Fewer young will be produced thus preventing the recovery of endangered species. Surely, the military can train in a less harmful manner that will still allow for them to be combat-ready. Have population models been developed to show how they will be affected by the training activities? Will the populations be resilient to the activities? Since whales take such a long time to reproduce, I doubt that they would be capable of rebounding from such a large long-term negative impact. I believe Texas A&M has conducted harvesting models on whales that may be useful in the environmental analysis.
Scott	Nancy	Please consider not testing in ways that are likely cause hearing loss or damage to marine mammals. You're smart people. Surely you can think of a way to test without causing harm to marine life. I have faith in you. Please stop it.
Seligman	Laurie	Dear Sirs, With all due respect, there is quite substantial evidence at this point, indicating the hazards facing marine life ,especially the hearing loss and navigation capabilities of whales and dolphins now as a result of not just sonar testing, but the level of attenuation being applied. Granted, if testing must be done for our nation's safety, it can be done farther from both where humans and marine life dwell in and out of the water. Sound frequencies do not stop at the water's edge, and what is known beyond a shadow of a doubt with no more research necessary, are the migrating and living hunting and dwelling patterns of these animals. that means the navy can test and go where they are not. They cannot live where food supply is not, but the testing can be done where they are not... It is not just economics. It is common sense and economics and good politics by this point. Thank you for your time.
Sesma	Grace	Please re-consider implementing these projects. They are harmful to all marine life... and by extension to all life. We are already harming ocean life in so many other ways....
Shabsin	Martee	The planned testing in Hawaiian and California waters is dangerous for marine life and will undoubtedly result in unacceptedly high casualties. The sense of hearing is probably the most critical of senses for these animals. Deafening them or even injuring their sense of hearing will disorient them, prevent them from locating adequate food sources and affect location of others of their species. Reproduction will decline and survival on this planet for them may well cease These very animals you will harm by your testing are ones that have proven to help mankind. Do the right thing and skip the testing
Shalat	Harriet	The U.S. Navy is proposing to conduct training exercises all along the U.S. East Coast and in the rich marine environment off the coast of California and Hawaii. These exercises would involve the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. According to its own Environmental Impact Statements, the Navy estimates that the planned exercises would kill up to 2,000 marine mammals, including a large number of animals from endangered species, such as right whales. Thousands of others would suffer permanent lung damage. An additional 16,000 would be

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		<p>permanently deafened and 5 million would be temporarily deafened by the exercises. We understand the need for protecting our country, but we can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures. We know that in the past, whales have stranded and died in the wake of major military sonar exercises, with bleeding from the ears and other tissue damage attributed to sonar. These have included incidents of beaked whales dying in the Canary Islands following sonar exercises, the panicked flight of orcas and porpoises off Washington State in 2003, and dozens of whales (including pregnant females) from several species who died in North Carolina in 2005. These tragedies can be avoided to a very significant degree. The HSUS is joining other environmental and animal welfare groups to ask the Navy to consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. We are calling on the U.S. Navy to re-think its plans and to incorporate additional protective measures.</p>
Shepard	Karen	<p>This is destructive and insane. We must protect the marine animals and your "testing" is just the opposite of that. You will harm/kill whales and other precious sea animals...for what???</p>
Sheridan	Theresa	<p>PLEASE protect our marine life. Do not allow the senseless injury to these gentle creatures that live in the sea!</p>
Sidenstecker	Maris	<p>I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. This is critical and a necessary step to limit the injury and death to as few animals as possible. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.</p>
Sillanpaa	Anna	<p>Hawaii - Southern California training is dreadful idea. It is very harmful to the Pacific marine life, and should not be carried out. There is no humanity with it, only pitiful unnecessary showing off, trying to make the army look important but does exactly the contrary. Makes it look useless and harmful.</p>
Silva	Kathleen	<p>I ask that you reconsider you HSTT sonar testing. The repeated use of sonar is detrimental to the marine life in the area and your own analysis indicates that marine mammals in this area will be significantly impacted by your use of sonar. Your own casualty estimates grow as your methods of determining them improves. Your effective rate cannot be estimated to be better than 10 percent. Using lookouts is a crude, ineffective and inadequate mitigation measure and has serious</p>

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		limitations, particularly in foggy conditions. There must be better alternatives right around the corner. You have some highly intelligent people in the Navy. I request that you put those minds together and spend a bit more time developing a system that does not have such a grave impact on the marine mammals in the area.
Silva	Nicole	Please stop hurting the animals.
Silva	Sharon	The incredible disregard for life continuously displayed by those supposedly engaged in the business of protecting life is breathtaking. May you get your ultimate wish, and find that there is no one left to play with but the Kochs and Waltons. I don't think there's enough alcohol on all of the planet to make that a fun day.
Simon	Richard	The life of a mammal is as important as any more worthless testing. Please do not undertake these life taking tests. Richard Simon
Simonton	Erika	I am Military spouse and very proud to be one. I am also someone who finds that all life in all forms should be respected. I think the fallout from this project needs to be reevaluated. I know there are many things going on to protect us from enemies overseas and at home that are important, I just cannot see how the damage and destruction of life in this project can be justified. I am shocked at the Navy's estimates of the far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard, and the Gulf states from 2014 to 2019, as stated in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The projected damage to whales and dolphins is staggering, with 33 million instances of "take" over five years, a vast increase over existing estimates of harm for the same regions. And I am appalled by the level of carnage reflected in these numbers: over 5 million instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. Your analysis fails to present and analyze reasonable alternatives that would significantly reduce the unprecedented level of harm to marine life. The mitigation scheme that the Navy principally relies on centered on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins will not result in an appreciable decrease in marine mammal injuries. Federal courts have found this same scheme inadequate and ineffective for good reason: it is largely useless in conditions (common at sea) that impair visual surveillance, it is unsuitable for detecting cryptic and deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface and, even if it were fully effective at detecting whales and dolphins, would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density -- acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the Navy wishes to be seen as an effective steward of the ocean environment, it simply must take steps to significantly reduce the level of harm that training and testing activities will inflict on marine life. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
Simpson	Garey	I appreciate that the NAVY has made an effort to study the potential and recognized impacts to marine mammals and other marine life. I further understand that casualties and collateral damages to the Maritime Environment are regrettable consequences to the security and defense of our Oceans. However, wouldn't it make more sense to test the sonars in environments where marine mammals, especially whales and porpoises, are at minimal numbers, such as under the Arctic Ice Sheets during winter, or in the Great Lakes, where there are no whales or porpoises? California and Hawaiian locations are teeming year-round with whales, porpoises, seals, and other marine wildlife that are dependent upon their hearing and sonar for survival. It does not seem logical to test sonars in regions with the highest densities of marine wildlife, especially marine mammals. Whale and Dolphin's natural sonar, for instance, seems to work quite well for echo location, without harming themselves or the environment. So, perhaps the key to perfection of NAVY sonar methods should look to these animal's Natural Sonar for better solutions. The success of our Nation's security also inherently includes preservation of our natural habitat and fisheries resources. More intelligent sonar options and opportunities are out there, if you will do the research. I sincerely appeal to the NAVY to seek alternative testing areas where the impacts to harm marine life, especially whales and porpoises, will be as minimal as possible. Respectfully, Garey L. Simpson, MS,PG

Last Name	First Name	Comment
Siragusa-Ortman	Susan	I am saddened to hear that the Navy is considering conducting exercises involving the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. Do you feel that it is really necessary to conduct this testing that will affect such a volume of marine life? It would be a great pity to see so much of the conservation work the USA has undertaken towards its marine environment over the last number of years being undermined by these proposed exercises. These conservation initiatives deserve to be applauded and have made the USA one of the leaders in marine conservation. To conduct these exercises flies in the face of all the good work and progress that has been achieved to date. There is also the issue of sound channels in the oceans that can carry sounds over vast distances, so not only local populations may be affected but also populations in areas seemingly far removed from the testing activities. As these activities could potentially affect endangered species on both the high seas and possibly in the territorial waters of other nations we believe that any other nations that could potentially be affected should be fully consulted, and the findings of any such consultations made public, prior to any decision being made on whether these activities should progress to the next stage. We would ask you to give serious consideration to just how necessary these proposed exercises are and where the benefits of them lie versus the destruction of marine life that so many dedicated citizens have worked tirelessly to preserve and enhance for both current and future generations.
Sisson	Karren	It is not OK to kill cetaceans and sea mammals with your testing. It will negatively impact the health and welfare of our Hawaiian citizens as well. You need to get an EIS before beginning testing. Our citizens are against this type of warfare, or any warfare, in our local waters. We ask that you respect our health and welfare, and the health and welfare of our seas and animals living in them. Thank you!
Skye	Robert	As Americans we love to chastise other countries for their ridiculous atrocities like Japan's horrible whaling activities and Canada's bloody seal clubbing. Why would the US Navy want to add our name to the list by wanting to kill, injure, or even harass the the most majestic marine mammals? Dolphins and whales are the very masters of sonar that inspired the first Navy use of sonar. It's like learning from your grandfather's stories and when you'd like to write your own stories, you start by kicking him in the few teeth he has left. Please, have some respect and consideration.
Smith	Barbara	What if we set the standards at the level where no living things are damaged? What if we developed the technology to "hear" and "see" underwater so that it is accurate but harmless? That should be the goal. No damage to living things. No more poisoning and damaging the air, earth and sea. That should be our standard. If we made that commitment, we could make it happen. Is the Navy going to have trained veterinarians on hand to euthanize the tortured animals? It is not worth it. It has never been worth it, to poison our atmosphere and waters and lands, for war. And I mean the earth's atmosphere, waters and lands, not just the US. We need to be respectful of the planet. We CAN have it both ways. We just have to develop non-damaging technology. If the technology is not safe, and if it cannot be cleaned up quickly and completely, then it should not be used. We still don't know how to safely store nuclear waste. Is that smart?
Smith	Charles	Why murder sentient creatures except when there is a clear present danger. Your actions are disgraceful and dishonorable. I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and

Last Name	First Name	Comment
		dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Copy and paste the above comment. Please add your own comments to make it more effective. Thank you. Click here to comment.
Smith	Joy	Dear Sirs, I am gravely concerned with your proposal to test with high-frequency sound waves to the extent that marine animals will be injured. We have not read the report in full, but have gathered at least this much information. If this is testing only, these Americans feel it is not worth the damage to be caused. The Manistee Peace Group claims this purpose: We advocate and educate for peace in the Manistee area, and therefore also advocate and educate for democracy, social justice, community and environmental sustainability. Please reconsider your plans so that such extreme damage will not be added to our collective consciences. With great respect for your service to our country and our world, Joy Smith, Josh and Nanci Swenson, Carol Voigts, Sister Joan Alfien, Jim Toczynski
Smith	Kathleen	consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed.
Smith	Keith	Please reconsider the testing you are planning which will bring irreparable harm to dolphins and whales. It's unconscionable.
Smith	Stephen	<u>Please stop this senseless killing and deafening of these helpless creatures.</u>
Snowball	Susan	Please re-think its plans and to incorporate additional protective measures. Please consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. I believe it is also your job to not only protect people but all living creatures. Thank you, Susan Snowball
Sokolowski	Roy	Under kinetic energy weapon testing (table 2.8-3) HRC: PMRF is listed in both rows, should one of these locations be different from HRC: PMRF (possibly SOCAL)?
Sokolowski	Roy	Thank you for providing the FAA the opportunity to review the draft EIS/OEIS. At this time we have no comment regarding the proposed action. Please forward a copy of the final EIS when complete for additional review.
Solari	Susan	Kindly consider the negative impact that sonar has on marine life whose main communication between each other is sound. These creatures are a valuable part of the earth's ecosystem.
Spohrer	James	I DO NOT support this renewal. I did not realize that we are one of the most notorious and lethal of the "whaling" nations. ...So damn senseless. This has got to stop. These creatures are already facing serious environment degradation, their numbers in alarming decline. Stop adding to the misery. This is NOT the legacy I want for my children. ---James Spohrer
St Claire	Virginia	My understanding is that the Navy itself has projected that it will make deaf 1600 whales and dolphins and kill 200 EACH YEAR IN A 7-YEAR PROGRAM in training

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		exercises. This is only an estimate of the untold damage that will be caused to our precious and already fragile ocean environments on the planet. I ask that this not be allowed to happen. Thank you. Virginia St. Claire, M.Div.
Stack	Victoria	It is distressing to me that whales and dolphins would be adversely impacted by these tests. The human family MUST be more aware of actions that are detrimental to the animal world. Our planet's health and human survival is related to the respect we have for our interconnectedness.
Steele	Cheryle	We understand the need for protecting our country, but we can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures. We know that in the past, whales have stranded and died in the wake of major military sonar exercises, with bleeding from the ears and other tissue damage attributed to sonar. These have included incidents of beaked whales dying in the Canary Islands following sonar exercises, the panicked flight of orcas and porpoises off Washington State in 2003, and dozens of whales (including pregnant females) from several species who died in North Carolina in 2005. These tragedies can be avoided to a very significant degree. Please re-think what and how this has to be done.
Stephens	Erich	According to the Navy's own EIS, this program will have impacts on critically important marine mammals that, while the numbers maybe uncertain, are clearly on the scale of doing significant damage to the populations in question. Given the uncertainties of scale (i.e. damage may be greater than anticipated), coupled with the accepted fact that some amount of damage will be done to these important populations, the only rational conclusion is that the program not be allowed to proceed. Besides, this program is a waste of tax payer dollars, given that no potential enemies have submarines sophisticated enough to evade more standard types of detection, i.e. detection at home ports by our own submarines. This is another DoD boondoggle.
Stevens	Brendan	What gives the military the right to harm Dolphins and Whales? They won't even save any lives with these tests. Please don't hurt the wildlife.
Stidham	Leslie	PLEASE do not conduct Naval testing in areas that could harm or torture marine life. I fully support our military and know that the need of protecting our nation is of great importance, and I immensely admire the dedication of our armed forces, but there has got to be a better way, one that we as a humane nation can feel proud-knowing we did not kill or harm these magnificent creatures God has given us. Lets not take the atrocities of mankind out on these sea creatures. If you do this, it will spread fast, citizens will find out, and you will lose support and respect of millions of Americans. This is our country, and we do not approve this type of vulgar and inhumane testing! Please listen up and do us proud. We are Americans for crying out loud, and you can find ways to do this without murdering God's creatures-who do we think we are to even think about doing this? Thank You, A very concerned Citizen of USA, California
Stocker	Don	I find it totally unacceptable and even hideous that man kind would knowingly harm another living creature. Please find another system. Develop different technology. There are no excuses for this.
Stokesbary	Mei-Jen	Aloha Navy, Please stop your sound testing in the ocean. This is wrong, what happens to the eardrums of the whales, dolphins, & seals. I ask that you stop this nonsense. Thank you for adhering to my request. Enjoy being in the navy our ocean. Please take care of it's inhabitants. Mei-jen Sun Stokesbary, L. Ac. Big. Island
Strang	Victoria	Please consider the marine mammals that will be in danger during your tests. Consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed
Stratton	Irene	There is much we don't know about whales but we do know they are highly intelligent, social, highly evolved mammals. We know their brains have as much or more surface area than ours which suggests their intelligence may parallel ours though it may be a very different kind of intelligence. Many marine mammal species are endangered because of human impacts upon their environment or hunting. Some whale populations which were in the past endangered are just

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		beginning to return because of education and protection. We have no right to knowingly permanently injure these living creatures who never purposefully injure humans unless first provoked. The Navy has admitted that the sonar tests will cause harm to whales and dolphins ranging from discomfort to disorientation to permanent deafness which would interfere with navigation, self defense and finding food thereby seriously impairing their ability to survive. Increased beaching and deaths of marine mammals have certainly been linked to previous Navy sound testing. Unless it is a time of war with imminent threat these tests should not be performed in areas known to be frequently passaged by whales and dolphins or within effective range of whales and dolphins. Please limit Navy sound testing to areas outside the known paths of migration, reproduction and feeding of whales and dolphins and other effected marine mammals. Please also require scanning for the presence of marine mammals within the disturbance zone prior to testing and delay testing until the marine mammals depart from the affected area. Unless these safeguards are in place, do not allow Navy sound testing.
Strom	Rivka	Please re-think your upcoming training and testing during July and place into your procedures those standards which will protect or eleviate the damage to marine mammals populations in the areas you plan your activities. Thank you for your time. Rivka Strom
Suarez	Graciela	Por favorrr.....salvemos nuestro planetaa dont kill inocent animals just for money,power ,please we are humans
Sumner	Justin	To Whom it May Concern: My comment was originally for the East Coast, if you could forward it along, it appears they've removed the comment section from that site. But just the same, my comments would also apply to the military games proposed for the West Coast as well, so please include them. While I have no doubt that these military training exercises are necessary and that every precaution would be taken to minimize the effect on marine wildlife in the areas, I believe the military is miscalculating the acceptable risk relating to the lives and well-being of the animals living within the proposed test area. These sonar and explosive tests WILL result in the needless injury and death of countless dolphins, whales and other marine mammals including some that are currently listed on the endangered species list. Any loss of life is unacceptable, and I would expect the Navy, which should have a deeper understanding of the global effects of the marine ecosystem, to know that. I'm sure that a lot of people have filed complaints about this, I know I'm not the first. I would like to, however, propose an alternative suggestion the military may not have considered yet. How about running these tests in waters that are closer to areas we are actively engaged in military combat. Sonar equipment or a torpedo with an active explosive may behave differently in our waters than they do in, say, the Arabian Sea. Conduct the proposed military tests there, destroy their fragile ecosystem, kill off their marine mammals. Besides, if you're going to have such an expensive pissing contest, wouldn't it be better to do it in the other guy's yard? Thank you for your time and consideration of my concerns involving the EIS/OEIS. Justin Sumner
Sund	Victor	Please add my name to those opposing any more sonar testing in the ocean.
Suppers	Nora and Terry	Please do not proceed with these tests - killing innocent creatures is never acceptable, in the name of war or security. The price for this type of testing is too high a cost in lives lost and the effect it will have on the environment.
Sutherland	Abbey	National Security is important; that's a given, but at what cost to our environment and the majestic ocean creatures that help keep it diverse. If we keep disregarding the world we live in, what will be left to protect?
Sutherland	Serena	All life is to be respected, honored and protected if we are to survive as a species. This included the animals of the seas. Please honor yourself and others. It is my request that you stop this sound testing now. Some one has to turn the tide and you are in this position to make this happen. Thank you.
Sutton	David	Ladies and Gentlemen, I am a US citizen, and a frequent visitor to the Pacific region, especially Hawaii. I love and enjoy all the wildlife and ocean life there. I consider the whales, dolphins, seals and other marine creatures a tremendous national treasure to be preserved. Your plans are the opposite, by your own research --- to kill, wound, injure and even torture these animals in the name of national defense. This is a deeply misguided project and way of thinking, Please find some way of doing your job without disrupting our oceans and killing innocent

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		creatures needed in the web of life. This is exactly the approach that has brought us to the edge of ecological disaster and species extinction in many cases. How will you explain this cruelty to your grandchildren? To my grandchildren? Where is your humanity and respect? Please end this misguided testing and tactics, and place money where it is really needed and do some Good for the world. Thank you, david sutton
Swanson	Charles	My comment is relatively simple and should be understood by anybody considering an operation that DOES NOT have to kill so many living beings. Compassion for animals is common among the good guys, but not among the bad ones. One of the surest signs that a biblical figure is a player in God's redemptive plan is the person's decency to the beasts of the field. Humane treatment of animals is seen here with Noah and will be repeated by Moses, Rebecca, Laban, and a host of others. It is not a coincidence that Christ is referred to as the 'Good Shepherd'. As St. Francis of Assisi said: "If you have men who will exclude any of God's creatures from the shelter of compassion and pity, you will have men who will deal likewise with their fellow men." Respectfully, Charles Swanson USAF Retired officer
Swing	Amanda	Please stop these tests. Our marine life is endangered as it is and cannot afford any more deaths.
Swingle	Sarah	I am opposed to the proposed training exercises on the coast of California and Hawaii. I understand that these exercises would involve the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. According to your estimates, the planned exercises would kill up to 2,000 marine mammals, including a large number of animals from endangered species, such as right whales. Thousands of others would suffer permanent lung damage. An additional 16,000 would be permanently deafened and 5 million would be temporarily deafened by the exercises. I understand the need for protecting our country, but we can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter.
Switzer	Laurie	Whales are the most magnificent creatures on the planet. I am proud of much of what the navy accomplishes and represents but I am concerned about the well being of our fellow creatures. Please do all you can to prevent harm to our environment. Especially the whales. Thank you.
Szeker	Dorene	please stop this testing!!!!!!!!
Tallman	Christina	Please protect the marine life and not harm them. We need them in our eco system. Please find another why for your project.
Tauger	Susan	The EIS/OEIS is OUTRAGEOUS AND ABUSIVE. Testing sonar at the risk of sea mammals is intolerable, and must not occur! Please STOP THIS!
Taylor	Sandra	By your own accounts, the current form of planned naval testing in the ocean would be devastating to an incredible number of marine mammals. Knowing this, I cannot even comprehend how you could think that this is acceptable, national security or not. If we survive at the cost of loosing site of the value of other forms of life besides human, then when we begin to feel the results of the loss of our delicate environmental balance - we should deserve every single misery that it creates. We are disrupting the earth's natural balance that has kept us alive for centuries. BEWARE. This disregard for it will bring your future children's generations nothing but strife and heartache. PLEASE REVISE YOUR PLANS TO OPTIMIZE CARE AND RESPECT OF OTHER LIVING AND PERHAPS MORE INTELLIGENT THAN US.....BEINGS!!!
Teixeira	Carla	killing lives and the planet just because of stupid navy exercises?? Please, are you people totally crazy????? do you want to destroy the all planet once and for all??? disgusting!!! its because of people like you that we still have all this wars,deaths and destruction in the world! cant you learn how to be good? how to share with others? how to live life peacefully and respect all kinds of life??? i'm sorry, but i need the planet to live, who tha <i>[Expletive deleted]</i> do you think you are to take away my right???????????? FROM THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD, PORTUGAL
Terrell	Linda	There is much we don't know about whales but we do know they are highly intelligent, social, highly evolved mammals. We know their brains have as much or

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		more surface area than ours which suggests their intelligence may parallel ours though it may be a very different kind of intelligence. Many marine mammal species are endangered because of human impacts upon their environment or hunting. Some whale populations which were in the past endangered are just beginning to return because of education and protection. We have no right to knowingly permanently injure these living creatures who never purposefully injure humans unless first provoked. The Navy has admitted that the sonar tests will cause harm to whales and dolphins ranging from discomfort to disorientation to permanent deafness which would interfere with navigation, self defense and finding food thereby seriously impairing their ability to survive. Increased beaching and deaths of marine mammals have certainly been linked to previous Navy sound testing. Unless it is a time of war with imminent threat these tests should not be performed in areas known to be frequently passaged by whales and dolphins or within effective range of whales and dolphins. Please limit Navy sound testing to areas outside the known paths of migration, reproduction and feeding of whales and dolphins and other effected marine mammals. Please also require scanning for the presence of marine mammals within the disturbance zone prior to testing and delay testing until the marine mammals depart from the affected area. Unless the rights of these marine mammals are respected, I cannot condone Navy sound testing. Most sincerely, Linda Terrell
Teubner	Arthur	Unacceptable !!! We know better. The Navy needs to stop this now !
Teubner	Chris	Please please save our most important natural resources!!! Thank you. Chris.
Theis	Cecelia	Please find a way to conduct exercises that will not harm so much life.
Thelen	Monika	stop the navy experiments as long it kills our all sea life.
Thiruvengadam	Selvy	Aloha! I live in Kona & have enjoyed the marine life here for many years. I was moved to share my humble opinion in the face of a situation that I do not know much about. I believe marine life is affected by sonar use & I feel if concerned citizens do not speak up for them then they have no voice. So I hope there can be precautions taken to prevent harm to the marine life and research done on the effects this sonar has on marine life. I am interested in balance and mindfulness when considering impacts on our Earth & if these comments from concerned people help to support & protect the life in our seas I feel that would add to balance in this world. Mahalo!
Tierney	Kevin	Please actively take steps to reduce sonar and other technologies' harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding harmful activities in calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed.
Tinch	Kyrie	This is impacting marine life in an alarming way that is totally unacceptable. Please stop these exercises.
Tisue	Amber	Dear U.S. Navy, Please protect marine mammals from explosives and sonar!!!!!! We cannot do this! The negative environmental impact on marine life needs to be stopped!!!!!! Protect our planet and its inhabitants!
Tomasini	Alice	While I do appreciate the United States Navy's mission to serve our national security interests, I strongly believe that we need to do all we can to ensure that we are not causing damage to the natural environment, especially intelligent and wonderful creatures like whales and dolphins. If this means it will cost the government more to operate in an environmentally safe manner, then please use my tax dollars to protect our precious world for our future generations. Thanks for this forum. Read the Earth Charter Initiative, this document says it all.
Traina	Diane	Please find another way to do your testing that does not involved the harming and death of dolphins and whales. We cannot, as human beings, keep treating the planet with such disregard and expect to be able to continue to live here in peace. Thank you for being kind stewards of the water that we all love here. Diane Traina
Trombly	Beth	Please do not do ANY sonar testing in our oceans! We, as humans, have a jump first, then look mentality. Protecting our oceans is as important as protected lands and I do not feel as if ALL of the harm that will be done to marine life has been

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		taken into consideration. At this time, we have enormous ocean pollution, I am thinking of garbage specifically. More specifically, radiated garbage from Japan. This, too, will be affecting the ocean wildlife. As a suggestion, our Navy can be tasked with finding an environmentally friendly solution to this problem. Why are we spending taxpayer money to scramble ocean creatures' brains, hearing, causing more death and detrimentally impacting the oceans' food chain? My last point is that on land, we have noise pollution laws. It is time to set some rules about underwater noise pollution because that is what the Navy is planning to do. Sincerely,
Tucker	Liz	I cannot imagine any greater damage being done through unnecessary noise pollution to our very valued whale and dolphin species. I am in the hearing field. I see patients daily who have damaged hearing due to noise exposure. Please don't inflict this damage on unsuspecting innocent creatures.
Tucker	Tracy	Please think. This is sooooooooooooo simple. Please ask your children and grand children. They can figure it out.
Tumey	Heather	Those animals are our country and the worlds' resources. If we harm and probably kill them (since many use sonar to find food they won't be able to eat) kill them whole sale we are destroying delicate ecosystems that humans rely on for food - not just the United States but all of the countries that fish in the Pacific Ocean. This technology has the possibility of directly impacting the worlds' future food resources. By harming this many animals we will affect many food chains in the ocean. This is Russian roulette with the environment of the Pacific ocean which is already impacted by over fishing and global warming. Please do not proceed with this program. The Navy's highly scientific guesses as to what will be impacted are limited by our present understandings of the interactions of various species and their impacts on the ocean. It is extremely difficult to extrapolate the full effects of this technology on our environment. This isn't worth the severe harm that could be caused.
Turchek	Maria	As a concerned citizen, I am urging the U.S. Navy to reconsider it's use of explosives and sonar along the waters of Hawaii and California. Please consider the effects of this testing on the animals living in these waters and work to find better alternatives.
Turchek	Maria	As a concerned citizen, I am urging the U.S. Navy to reconsider it's use of explosives and sonar in the waters of Hawaii and California. Please consider the effects of this testing on the animals living in these waters and work to find better alternatives.
Tutt	Chloe	I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

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Tyson	Mary	The highest authority is life and love. To kill and deafen, one and the same to ocean mammals, is destruction and possible near extinction of helpless beings, deserving protection, not endangerment by military forces. Humanity has awakened to the realization that war is business for profit. Killing life for profit is inhumane and not required, unless the military is doing the dirty work for the elite. Come now, is destruction of life worth profit? How much more do you expect us to endure? Humans must turn this around now. If you have any awareness of your heart and love, inside of you, please end this plan. Wealthy war profiteers can find other ways to squeeze the final wealth from their contrived economy. Please, protect the ocean life from harm.
Uliana	Regina	In behalf of the valuable creatures of the ocean, please stop these horrible, horrific trials. No one wants to have their children deaf and if deaf to fend for themselves without being able to hear in a world that requires hearing for their survival. This is no different than the medical doctors doing exploratory surgery on humans during world war 11. We need to care for others not kill and harm them and that means other mamamals. Are we that inhumane to not recognize this horrific damage, They can practice and train on computers, not on life. That's what computers were made for. Real life training can be simulated. These sonar activities are absolutely, unquestionably wrong, unjust, unfair, criminal. Those involved in these trainings are indifferent and don't have the courage or guts to object. They follow orders mindlessly. Then they are no different than the SS soldiers sending lives into the gas chamber. This is absolutely wrong and needs to stop now. What more comment do you need. There is no justification for it especially when we have computers and simulators. No argument, money or rhetoric or sophistry justifies for these atrocities. Please stop. I'm one voice, but I speak for all those creatures who we all need to speak for. This is beyond criminal.
Valenzuela	Sally	Dolphins & all marine life belong in our oceans. We should appreciate the beauty they give to us by being themselves. We shouldn't invade their homes, just as we wouldn't want our own homes to be invaded. We need to protect them & not hurt them.
Valerio	Karen	Please look at what you can do to minimize the impact that your testing will have on marine life. I am shocked that by your own numbers, thousands of animals will be killed or harmed. This is simply cruel and unethical. You're a smart bunch of people; please use your intelligence to do a better job of protecting our fragile ecosystem and the animals that inhabit it. Thanks much.
Van de Bijl	Maartje	We are saddened to hear that the Navy is considering conducting exercises involving the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. Do you feel that it is really necessary to conduct this testing that will affect such a volume of marine life? It would be a great pity to see so much of the conservation work the USA has undertaken towards its marine environment over the last number of years being undermined by these proposed exercises. These conservation initiatives deserve to be applauded and have made the USA one of the leaders in marine conservation. To conduct these exercises flies in the face of all the good work and progress that has been achieved to date. There is also the issue of sound channels in the oceans that can carry sounds over vast distances, so not only local populations may be affected but also populations in areas seemingly far removed from the testing activities. As these activities could potentially affect endangered species on both the high seas and possibly in the territorial waters of other nations we believe that any other nations that could potentially be affected should be fully consulted, and the findings of any such consultations made public, prior to any decision being made on whether these activities should progress to the next stage. We would ask you to give serious consideration to just how necessary these proposed exercises are and where the benefits of them lie versus the destruction of marine life that so many dedicated citizens have worked tirelessly to preserve and enhance for both current and future generations. We look forward to hearing from you with your views on the above, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us, yours, Maartje Van de Bijl
Van Dinter	David	I'm writing to voice my opinion regarding Sonic research as it is currently done and that will be done in the future. If Boeing can build the 777 from the bottom up using simulations why do we have to do so much damage to the sea? In more so why to we have to do it in places that are still worth going. There are whole islands of

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		trash out there, can't you just blow up that? Or Jersey Shore?
Van Gampelaere	Tommy	We are saddened to hear that the Navy is considering conducting exercises involving the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. Do you feel that it is really necessary to conduct this testing that will affect such a volume of marine life? It would be a great pity to see so much of the conservation work the USA has undertaken towards its marine environment over the last number of years being undermined by these proposed exercises. These conservation initiatives deserve to be applauded and have made the USA one of the leaders in marine conservation. To conduct these exercises flies in the face of all the good work and progress that has been achieved to date. There is also the issue of sound channels in the oceans that can carry sounds over vast distances, so not only local populations may be affected but also populations in areas seemingly far removed from the testing activities. As these activities could potentially affect endangered species on both the high seas and possibly in the territorial waters of other nations we believe that any other nations that could potentially be affected should be fully consulted, and the findings of any such consultations made public, prior to any decision being made on whether these activities should progress to the next stage. We would ask you to give serious consideration to just how necessary these proposed exercises are and where the benefits of them lie versus the destruction of marine life that so many dedicated citizens have worked tirelessly to preserve and enhance for both current and future generations. We look forward to hearing from you with your views on the above, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us, Tommy Van Gampelaere yours,
Van Hoepen	Karen	Please consider using alternative testing methods. The proposed training exercises all along the U.S. East Coast and in the rich marine environment off the coast of California and Hawaii, involving the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar could kill up to 2,000 marine mammals, including a large number of animals from endangered species, such as right whales. Thousands of others would suffer permanent lung damage. An additional 16,000 would be permanently deafened and 5 million would be temporarily deafened by the exercises. These tragedies can be avoided if alternative methods are considered. Our National Security is of utmost importance, however there has to be a way to be able to preserve our planet's oceans and marine life while protecting the country. Please consider taking steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. Please consider !! Thank you for reading and your consideration. From a very concerned citizen, Karen van Hoepen
Vandieren	Holland	Please cancel planned under-water explosives/sonar exercises along the Eastern Seaboard and California and Hawaiian coasts to avoid harming and killing marine mammals. These exercises can be modified to avoid such destruction, and proceed later. In the past whales stranded and died in the wake of major military sonar exercises, bleeding from the ears and additional tissue damage, for example: Beaked whales died in the Canary Islands following sonar exercises. Panicked orcas and porpoises fled off Washington State in 2003. Dozens of whales (including pregnant females) from several species died in North Carolina in 2005. These tragedies can be avoided to a very significant degree. Please cancel the planned exercises and take steps to protect marine mammals, such as: Avoid the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors and seasonal high-use feeding areas. Create a larger "safety zone" around the exercises using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed.
Vasic	J	We understand the need for protecting our country, but we can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures. Stop using high intensity

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		sonar testing and live explosions near important whale and dolphin habitat. This is ridiculous, please stop this before you start.
Vele	Rebecca	Your testing of weapons in our oceans will destroy everything. Take care of our oceans and have some respect.
Verde	Caroline	I am opposed to the proposed training exercises involving explosives and sonar along the east coast and off the California and Hawaii coast. It is well known that these areas are rich in biodiversity and in particular as migratory routes, breeding grounds, and feeding areas for whales and dolphins. This is not a sound idea at all.
Vervynck	Sydney	Please re-think your plans in order to protect the marine life from explosives and sonar.
Vilello	Anne	PLEASE don't do it!! please don't harm the whales and dolphins
Villasenor	Lisa	The planet's cost of ocean sonar testing will be the lives of thousands of dolphins and whales. The imminent vanishing of thousands is a known result. What are the long term effects? A planet devoid of these beautiful mammals? It is appalling and shocking to learn of the intended sonar testing in our oceans. My family, and surrounding community is horrified by the notion that our very own military is planning to pollute the oceans with sound so drastically as to commit mass homicide upon nature's creatures. Especially if this is an avoidable consequence. We would like to know that our honorable U.S. Military is seeking alternatives and will not proceed until all options are investigated and exhausted. Thank You. Concerned whale and dolphin watcher in San Jose, Calif.
Vincent	Rutily	We are saddened to hear that the Navy is considering conducting exercises involving the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. Do you feel that it is really necessary to conduct this testing that will affect such a volume of marine life? It would be a great pity to see so much of the conservation work the USA has undertaken towards its marine environment over the last number of years being undermined by these proposed exercises. These conservation initiatives deserve to be applauded and have made the USA one of the leaders in marine conservation. To conduct these exercises flies in the face of all the good work and progress that has been achieved to date. There is also the issue of sound channels in the oceans that can carry sounds over vast distances, so not only local populations may be affected but also populations in areas seemingly far removed from the testing activities. As these activities could potentially affect endangered species on both the high seas and possibly in the territorial waters of other nations we believe that any other nations that could potentially be affected should be fully consulted, and the findings of any such consultations made public, prior to any decision being made on whether these activities should progress to the next stage. We would ask you to give serious consideration to just how necessary these proposed exercises are and where the benefits of them lie versus the destruction of marine life that so many dedicated citizens have worked tirelessly to preserve and enhance for both current and future generations. We look forward to hearing from you with your views on the above, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us, yours,
Vlach-Lasher	Kara	I am asking you to please consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed.
Vogelgesang	Wendy	Don't screw up the marine mammals any further than everything else man is doing to the oceans already are. Please reconsider the explosives and sonar exercises that are being planned for military purposes--there's got to be a way you can conduct some of these exercises that doesn't impact wildlife to the extent that the current way does. I'm sure you're looking at this and other letters expressing similar concerns as a joke, but try not to laugh and actually consider what you're doing to the environment. I realize that you don't give much of a thought to the environment and view all conservationists & environmentalists as crack heads that you can sit back and laugh at, but please try to take this seriously. The animals are important

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		too---it's not just humans who live on this planet, and some of the species that will be affected are endangered.
Vollmer	Evelyn	Please I ask you to protect the marine mammals from explosives and sonar, it is so very important.....have mercy on these wonderful animals, please, please, please!
Waggoner	Ellen	Please incorporate greater protective measures for marine life into the proposed training exercises off the coast of California and Hawaii. According to the Navy's own Environmental Impact Statements, the planned exercises would kill up to 2,000 marine mammals, including a large number of animals from endangered species, such as right whales. Thousands of others would suffer permanent lung damage. An additional 16,000 would be permanently deafened and 5 million would be temporarily deafened by the exercises. The massive harm to marine life that these exercises will cause is unacceptable. Please incorporate protective measures such as: avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Such measures will still allow military training exercises to proceed, but will minimize the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. It is well-documented that in the past, military sonar exercises have caused injuries, death, and terrible suffering in marine life. For example, whales have stranded and died in the wake of military sonar exercises, with bleeding from the ears and other tissue damage attributed to sonar. These have included incidents of beaked whales dying in the Canary Islands following sonar exercises, the panicked flight of orcas and porpoises off Washington State in 2003, and dozens of whales (including pregnant females) from several species who died in North Carolina in 2005. Please do the only right thing, and incorporate additional protective measures including those outlined above. Thank you for your consideration.
Wagner	Stacy	We are saddened to hear that the Navy is considering conducting exercises involving the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. Do you feel that it is really necessary to conduct this testing that will affect such a volume of marine life? It would be a great pity to see so much of the conservation work the USA has undertaken towards its marine environment over the last number of years being undermined by these proposed exercises. These conservation initiatives deserve to be applauded and have made the USA one of the leaders in marine conservation. To conduct these exercises flies in the face of all the good work and progress that has been achieved to date. There is also the issue of sound channels in the oceans that can carry sounds over vast distances, so not only local populations may be affected but also populations in areas seemingly far removed from the testing activities. As these activities could potentially affect endangered species on both the high seas and possibly in the territorial waters of other nations we believe that any other nations that could potentially be affected should be fully consulted, and the findings of any such consultations made public, prior to any decision being made on whether these activities should progress to the next stage. We would ask you to give serious consideration to just how necessary these proposed exercises are and where the benefits of them lie versus the destruction of marine life that so many dedicated citizens have worked tirelessly to preserve and enhance for both current and future generations. We look forward to hearing from you with your views on the above, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us. Yours, Stacy Wagner & concerned animals of the ocean
Wagoner	Genesa	There is much we don't know about whales but we do know they are highly intelligent, social, highly evolved mammals. We know their brains have as much or more surface area than ours which suggests their intelligence may parallel ours though it may be a very different kind of intelligence. Many marine mammal species are endangered because of human impacts upon their environment or hunting. Some whale populations which were in the past endangered are just beginning to return because of education and protection. We have no right to knowingly permanently injure these living creatures who never purposefully injure humans unless first provoked. The Navy has admitted that the sonar tests will cause harm to whales and dolphins ranging from discomfort to disorientation to permanent deafness which would interfere with navigation, self defense and finding food thereby seriously impairing their ability to survive. Increased beaching and

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		deaths of marine mammals have certainly been linked to previous Navy sound testing. Unless it is a time of war with imminent threat these tests should not be performed in areas known to be frequently passaged by whales and dolphins or within effective range of whales and dolphins. Please limit Navy sound testing to areas outside the known paths of migration, reproduction and feeding of whales and dolphins and other effected marine mammals. Please also require scanning for the presence of marine mammals within the disturbance zone prior to testing and delay testing until the marine mammals depart from the affected area. Unless the rights of these marine mammals are respected, I cannot condone Navy sound testing. Most sincerely, Genesa Wagoner MD
Wallace	Christine	Please consider placing safeguards in place during military exercises along the East coast and California and Hawaii for innocent marine wildlife. There are measures that can be put in place and still allow the exercises to take place. Thank you for your consideration.
Wallis	Gertrude	I am writing to ask you to stop the killing of 1,800 whales and dolphins and the deafening of 15,900 more by ceasing the operation of the Navy's underwater sound system in the Hawaiian Islands, the California and Atlantic Coasts, and the Gulf of Mexico. These numbers, from your own estimates, are unacceptable, and completely preventable. Whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate and live, and our scientists and researchers are intelligent enough to offer humane alternatives.
Walsh	Kim	PLEASE no testing. The Navy's report states that the exercises could cause 1,600 marine mammals to suffer from hearing loss or other injury from its use of sonar and explosives each year for the next five years. The report also projects that 200 marine mammals will die each year.
Wargo	Cindy	I would like to comment on the environmental impact statement that you are going to kill a astronomical amount of marine animals, including endangered species. I request first of all that you find alternative means to do this - and drastically reduce the amount of collateral damage to other beings who live in the sea. If you must conduct exercises they should be done far and away from important calving and feeding grounds. I really think its ridiculous in this day and age that the US Navy - the strongest and best Navy in the world cannot come up with an alternative solution. I respectfully ask that you do everything possible to not kill marine animals. They have enough pressures without man adding needless ones.
Wasson	Mary	It's a sad state of affairs that our government in the name of almighty power systematically kills animals that cannot speak for themselves. Has our nation become so power hungry and uncaring that we don't care about the collateral damage. We are killing our planet. It's morally and ethically wrong. Permanently deafen????? wtf?? How are these animals to survive without their hearing, that is, if they aren't killed first? The war machine is an evil creature created by man, wiping out anything good and beautiful in it's path.
Watson	Des	We the people and mother earth do not want your test there is no need for it the harm use people are doing to life and earth is sending us all to death we are the poeple when we come together as one you will not win do you people have kids and family of your own im sure you do. Do you not care about them and there future as thats what people like you are doing destroying there futures so sad to see things like you are on this planet
Watson	Hannah	I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the

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		ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
Watts	Elizabeth	The Navy's training and testing will harm more than 50 species of whales and dolphins, including eight protected by the Endangered Species Act, such as the North Atlantic right whale (one of the most critically endangered whales), blue whale (the largest animal to have ever lived on the planet), and sperm whale (including populations harmed by the BP Deepwater Horizon disaster). Please reconsider these tests, and think about other species. Thank you.
Webb	Margaret	The negative impacts of sonar and seismic testing in ocean waters on marine mammals is well documented in numerous government and institutional studies. (One such reference was conducted by the U.S. Geological Survey for the National Science Foundation at http://www.nsf.gov/geo/oce/envcomp/usgs-nsf-marine-seismic-research/nsf-usgs-final-eis-oeis_3june2011.pdf). These impacts are far ranging and can be damaging and lethal to marine mammals, fisheries and other flora and fauna in the ocean. The benefits of this testing is far outweighed by the damage and destruction of the life in our oceans. The only responsible action is not to use this lethal technology.
Webber	Gregg	Please discontinue any activity harmful to the whales.
Weed	Fiona	Please do not go forward with your plans to conduct training exercises all along the U.S. East Coast & http://afteis.com/GetInvolved/OnlineCommentForm.aspx ; and in the rich marine environment off the coast of California and Hawaii & http://hssteis.com/GetInvolved/OnlineCommentForm.aspx ; which would involve the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. Your estimates are that the planned exercises would kill up to 2,000 marine mammals, including a large number of animals from endangered species, such as right whales. An additional 16,000 would be permanently deafened and 5 million would be temporarily deafened by the exercises. That is devastating and irresponsible and something I find shocking that America would do. We need to stand tall and create an example for other countries. Please find an alternative for your tests. One that won't destroy life, precious resources and our oceans!
Weiland	Linda	Don't harm the dolphins and their hearing. I know from personal experience to have a severe hearing loss. It is terrible and you are not able to relate to the real world. The dolphins are almost human like and need to relate to their world. Hearing is essential. Every day I want to die, because I can no longer hear. Every day is a torment to exist. By the way, I am a Navy brat. My father retired with the rank of Admiral. Please "hear" my voice and no harm to the dolphins.
Weiner	Joan	Sonic testing in the ocean is dangerous to our life in the ocean. You need to re-think this and stop the testing, stop maiming and injuring our aquatic mammals plus so many other life forms in the ocean that whose morbidity and mortality are increased directly due to this poorly thought out testing.
Weiner	Joan	Please stop using my tax payer money to fund these deplorably destructive and dangerous tests. Our neighbors, aquatic mammals and other species, are part of life on this planet and infliction of morbidity and mortality is deplorable and needs to stop now. Figure something else out that isn't so harmful to other life forms with whom we share our planet.
Weinfurter	Kimberly	Please refrain from using explosives and sonar near Hawaii and Southern California. The damage to the whales and dolphins in the area and for miles around would be catastrophic. It would be the equivalent of blowing an airhorn within 10 ft of your head. Save the whales & dolphins!
Weinfurter	Kimberly	I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern

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		<p>California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans.</p>
Weinstein	Shayna	<p>I agree that we need a robust and strong Navy to protect national security. I also agree that whales, dolphins, and porpoises deserve to live and to have a healthy ocean environment. According to its own Environmental Impact Statements, the Navy estimates that the training exercises planned along the East Coast and in the rich marine environment off the coast of California and Hawaii involving live explosives and high-intensity sonar would kill up to 2,000 marine mammals, including a large number of animals from endangered species, such as right whales. Thousands of others would suffer permanent lung damage. An additional 16,000 would be permanently deafened and 5 million would be temporarily deafened by the exercises. I understand the need for protecting our country, but we can find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures. In the past, whales have stranded and died in the wake of major military sonar exercises, with bleeding from the ears and other tissue damage attributed to sonar. These have included incidents of beaked whales dying in the Canary Islands following sonar exercises, the panicked flight of orcas and porpoises off Washington State in 2003, and dozens of whales (including pregnant females) from several species who died in North Carolina in 2005. These tragedies can be avoided to a very significant degree. I urge the Navy to consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed.</p>
Weiss	Lisa	<p>There is already soooo much working against our environment on which we depend. Please do not add to the problems! It's crucial for everyone to keep things in balance.</p>
Weller	Cynthia	<p>I grew up in the Norfolk, VA area where the Navy is a vital and respected part of the fabric of the community. I have also had the privilege of visiting the California coast and the enchanting Hawaiian Islands. In Hawaii, I was able to watch gray whales and their calves frolic and breach in their natural environment. The sea is critical to the U.S. Navy and our national security and is also critical to the very survival of the dolphins and whales that must share it with our ships. I implore the Navy to find ways to lessen the impact on these amazing animals that already face survival challenges from so many man-made objects (i.e. trash, etc.) Surely there are intelligent scientists/biologists that can help our officers at the Pentagon come up with a strategy to fulfill the Navy's mission AND protect our sea life. To do anything less would be an abdication of responsibility as U.S. citizens and as</p>

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		caretakers of our fellow creatures. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
Wells	Sheila	Hello, Please find a way to ensure national security without sacrificing such an extraordinary number of whales, dolphins, and many other marine creatures. According to its own Environmental Impact Statements, the Navy estimates that the planned exercises would kill up to 2,000 marine mammals, including a large number of animals from endangered species, such as right whales. Thousands of others would suffer permanent lung damage. An additional 16,000 would be permanently deafened and 5 million would be temporarily deafened by the exercises. Please consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps could include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. Thank you for your consideration.
Wesch	Cynthia	Please do not allow the taking of any marine mammals. Whales are intelligent mammals with complex social structures. Improved sighting methods need to be employed as whales often travel silently. Relying on the current sighting guidelines is inadequate. Sonar use needs to be restricted in every way possible: time allowed, strength, frequency . . . Use simulation methods for training and restrict open ocean testing.
White	Katherine	I am appalled at the inevitable repercussions of this project. Applying sonar in areas known to be populated by marine mammals such as whales, who depend on sonar to survive is outrageous. We need to ensure the health of these creatures, and in effect of our oceans. The US Navy has the obligation to protect our country from harm--would that it does not harm our country in the process. This proposal seeks to gain the Navy the right to wreak destruction in our ocean--right off of our very coast. This is unacceptable. Those with direct power in this decision-making process have an absolute duty to look for less destructive alternatives to this project, and to deny this project completely as it is. We cannot afford to folly about with the health of something so vital as our ocean ecosystem. Regardless of how much we have sought to separate ourselves from nature, we are still very much dependent on it. I hope the fishermen are getting a word in about this, because their dependence is so direct and immediate. Please fulfill your duty to our country by rejecting this proposal.
Whiteman	Montoya	Today is the last day that I can submit my comments regarding the US Navy's intent to conduct sonar testing and oceanic bombing in the South Pacific. I am adamantly against this because it will severely harm marine mammals. The arrogance of us as human beings to believe that it is acceptable is misguided and plain wrong. I implore those that have the Power and the conscience to stop this effort in its tracks. Proceeding In this project will be devastating to the thousands, if not, hundreds of thousands of marine animals. It is devastating to my heart to think this could really happen. For what? The sake of knowledge, study, practice or national security. What more can we
Whiteman	Montoya	Destroy that we have not tainted already. Perhaps my reasoning is naive, but I see no concrete purpose or good in these activities. I add my concerns, discontent, and disapproval of these activities to the list of ocean-loving, animal-friendly, and eco-conscious people that you stop this effort now. Thank you.
Whittaker	Anna	The Navy's planned exercise along both coasts of the US., cannot take so many thousands of marine animals lives. In good conscience, it is wrong. With all the technology available, something else needs to be done. Right now, what the Navy plans is unacceptable. AW
Wicks	Cara Lou	It is my considered opinion that our oceans/sea life are under considerable "attack" from everything and would very much like to see the military services, etc. do everything they can to avoid causing more trauma to ocean/sea life of all types. thank you for your consideration !
Wilkerson	Lisa	We are saddened to hear that the Navy is considering conducting exercises involving the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. Do you feel that it is really necessary to conduct this testing that will affect such a volume of marine life? It would be a great pity to see so much of the conservation work the USA has

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		undertaken towards its marine environment over the last number of years being undermined by these proposed exercises. These conservation initiatives deserve to be applauded and have made the USA one of the leaders in marine conservation. To conduct these exercises flies in the face of all the good work and progress that has been achieved to date. There is also the issue of sound channels in the oceans that can carry sounds over vast distances, so not only local populations may be affected but also populations in areas seemingly far removed from the testing activities. As these activities could potentially affect endangered species on both the high seas and possibly in the territorial waters of other nations we believe that any other nations that could potentially be affected should be fully consulted, and the findings of any such consultations made public, prior to any decision being made on whether these activities should progress to the next stage. We would ask you to give serious consideration to just how necessary these proposed exercises are and where the benefits of them lie versus the destruction of marine life that so many dedicated citizens have worked tirelessly to preserve and enhance for both current and future generations. Thank you for your time, The Wilkerson family
Williams	Regina	As a concerned citizen of the United States. It is extremely disturbing to me that you do EIS testing. Are you aware of the harm that causes whales and dolphins. Please do not harm these wonderful animals.
Williams	Tracey	The navy's blatant disregard for sea mammals is shameful. You make the U.S. look like a backward nation. Your lack of intelligence when it comes to aquatic species is mind boggling. I am ashamed to be an American nowadays. I understand why the world hates the US where once it was loved. I am saving my money to leave this BS Lie. Land of greed, land of idols and whores. YOU ARE KILLING WHAT IS LEFT OF THE SEAS! Moronic. Go for it. You will be held accountable. There is a G_d.
Williams	Tracy	Please find an alternate method for testing that does not damage the ecosystem or kill and disrupt the lives of dolphins, whales and other marine life. Such collateral damage is not acceptable to anyone and should not be to our military whom we support unconditionally. Thank you!
Williams	Trinidad A.	I had commented on a Hawaii group blog that dismissed an EIS reporting meeting; had previously signed a petition titled "... don't deafen the whales" ~ my interest generated by a news item of impending Naval Armada to conduct sonar research in Hawaiian waters' which I'd felt disturbing to the whales currently in the island channels raising young calves-possibly mating-feeding before traveling back to the West coastal waters. I am so pleased to find a link that has extensive research reports; I have a better understanding of purpose-have information to the ecological conditions-diverse lifeforms-marine life protection measures. I am submitting comment of thank you for this available link to questions that I feel is an issue.
Williamson	Barbara	The science is clear that the sonar equipment is harmful to whales and marine life. Don't use it and destroy many of the precious marine lives we are trying to preserve. For training it's unacceptable. I am sure there are alternative ways to stimulate the experience without causing death and destruction. As a health care provider we don't kill people and revive them to practice our skills! If we destroy our planet's diversity, air and water for security purposes we will have accomplished NOTHING.
Wilson	Amanda	There is much we don't know about whales but we do know they are highly intelligent, social, highly evolved mammals. We know their brains have as much or more surface area than ours which suggests their intelligence may parallel ours though it may be a very different kind of intelligence. Many marine mammal species are endangered because of human impacts upon their environment or hunting. Some whale populations which were in the past endangered are just beginning to return because of education and protection. We have no right to knowingly permanently injure these living creatures who never purposefully injure humans unless first provoked. The Navy has admitted that the sonar tests will cause harm to whales and dolphins ranging from discomfort to disorientation to permanent deafness which would interfere with navigation, self defense and finding food thereby seriously impairing their ability to survive. Increased beaching and deaths of marine mammals have certainly been linked to previous Navy sound

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		<p>testing. Unless it is a time of war with imminent threat these tests should not be performed in areas known to be frequently passaged by whales and dolphins or within effective range of whales and dolphins. Please limit Navy sound testing to areas outside the known paths of migration, reproduction and feeding of whales and dolphins and other effected marine mammals. Please also require scanning for the presence of marine mammals within the disturbance zone prior to testing and delay testing until the marine mammals depart from the affected area. Unless the rights of these marine mammals are respected, I cannot condone Navy sound testing. Most sincerely, Amanda Wilson</p>
Wilson	Denise	<p>The HSUS is joining other environmental and animal welfare groups to ask the Navy to consider steps to reduce the harmful impacts to marine mammals. These steps include avoiding the most harmful activities in areas used as calving grounds or migratory corridors; avoiding seasonal high-use feeding areas; creating a larger "safety zone" around the exercises; and using aerial or acoustic monitoring to determine whether marine mammals are nearby and may be harmed. Taking these steps would allow important military training exercises to go forward, while minimizing the likelihood that whales, dolphins, and porpoises might be harmed or killed. Along with the HSUS, I am calling on the U.S. Navy to re-think its plans and to incorporate additional protective measures. Mrs. Denise Wilson</p>
Wilson	Donna	<p>Please don't close your eyes to this. There is much we don't know about whales but we do know they are highly intelligent, social, highly evolved mammals. We know their brains have as much or more surface area than ours which suggests their intelligence may parallel ours though it may be a very different kind of intelligence. Many marine mammal species are endangered because of human impacts upon their environment or hunting. Some whale populations which were in the past endangered are just beginning to return because of education and protection. We have no right to knowingly permanently injure these living creatures who never purposefully injure humans unless first provoked. The Navy has admitted that the sonar tests will cause harm to whales and dolphins ranging from discomfort to disorientation to permanent deafness which would interfere with navigation, self defense and finding food thereby seriously impairing their ability to survive. Increased beaching and deaths of marine mammals have certainly been linked to previous Navy sound testing. Unless it is a time of war with imminent threat these tests should not be performed in areas known to be frequently passaged by whales and dolphins or within effective range of whales and dolphins. Please limit Navy sound testing to areas outside the known paths of migration, reproduction and feeding of whales and dolphins and other effected marine mammals. Please also require scanning for the presence of marine mammals within the disturbance zone prior to testing and delay testing until the marine mammals depart from the affected area. Unless the rights of these marine mammals are respected, I cannot condone Navy sound testing.</p>
Wilson	Jessen	<p>There is much we don't know about whales but we do know they are highly intelligent, social, highly evolved mammals. We know their brains have as much or more surface area than ours which suggests their intelligence may parallel ours though it may be a very different kind of intelligence. Many marine mammal species are endangered because of human impacts upon their environment or hunting. Some whale populations which were in the past endangered are just beginning to return because of education and protection. We have no right to knowingly permanently injure these living creatures who never purposefully injure humans unless first provoked. The Navy has admitted that the sonar tests will cause harm to whales and dolphins ranging from discomfort to disorientation to permanent deafness which would interfere with navigation, self defense and finding food thereby seriously impairing their ability to survive. Increased beaching and deaths of marine mammals have certainly been linked to previous Navy sound testing. Unless it is a time of war with imminent threat these tests should not be performed in areas known to be frequently passaged by whales and dolphins or within effective range of whales and dolphins. Please limit Navy sound testing to areas outside the known paths of migration, reproduction and feeding of whales and dolphins and other effected marine mammals. Please also require scanning for the presence of marine mammals within the disturbance zone prior to testing and delay testing until the marine mammals depart from the affected area. Unless</p>

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		the rights of these marine mammals are respected, I cannot condone Navy sound testing.
Wilson	Zachary	Please limit Navy sound testing! There is much we don't know about whales but we do know they are highly intelligent, social, highly evolved mammals. We know their brains have as much or more surface area than ours which suggests their intelligence may parallel ours though it may be a very different kind of intelligence. Many marine mammal species are endangered because of human impacts upon their environment or hunting. Some whale populations which were in the past endangered are just beginning to return because of education and protection. We have no right to knowingly permanently injure these living creatures who never purposefully injure humans unless first provoked. The Navy has admitted that the sonar tests will cause harm to whales and dolphins ranging from discomfort to disorientation to permanent deafness which would interfere with navigation, self defense and finding food thereby seriously impairing their ability to survive. Increased beaching and deaths of marine mammals have certainly been linked to previous Navy sound testing. Unless it is a time of war with imminent threat these tests should not be performed in areas known to be frequently passaged by whales and dolphins or within effective range of whales and dolphins. Please limit Navy sound testing to areas outside the known paths of migration, reproduction and feeding of whales and dolphins and other effected marine mammals. Please also require scanning for the presence of marine mammals within the disturbance zone prior to testing and delay testing until the marine mammals depart from the affected area. Unless the rights of these marine mammals are respected, I cannot condone Navy sound testing.
Wiltse	Kris	Please stop training and testing EIS/OEIS.it does terrible damage to wildlife.
Winterbottom	Angie	We are saddened to hear that the Navy is considering conducting exercises involving the use of live explosives and high-intensity sonar. Do you feel that it is really necessary to conduct this testing that will affect such a volume of marine life? It would be a great pity to see so much of the conservation work the USA has undertaken towards its marine environment over the last number of years being undermined by these proposed exercises. These conservation initiatives deserve to be applauded and have made the USA one of the leaders in marine conservation. To conduct these exercises flies in the face of all the good work and progress that has been achieved to date. There is also the issue of sound channels in the oceans that can carry sounds over vast distances, so not only local populations may be affected but also populations in areas seemingly far removed from the testing activities. As these activities could potentially affect endangered species on both the high seas and possibly in the territorial waters of other nations we believe that any other nations that could potentially be affected should be fully consulted, and the findings of any such consultations made public, prior to any decision being made on whether these activities should progress to the next stage. We would ask you to give serious consideration to just how necessary these proposed exercises are and where the benefits of them lie versus the destruction of marine life that so many dedicated citizens have worked tirelessly to preserve and enhance for both current and future generations.
Wiseman	Jennifer	PLEASE rework this plan to provide better protection for marine mammals! The current plan is predicted to cause deafness, stranding, and death to thousands of animals. I appreciate military protection, but not at the cost of killing any innocent animals just for training; please do not carry on exercises that would cause marine mammals to suffer and die. Instead, consider and adopt alternative suggestions that animal welfare organizations can recommend, and consider exercises that don't require the actual deployment of explosives and high intensity sonar that cause so much suffering. Thank you.
Wolf	Catherine	Please, we must stop this training and testing. We are at risk of endangering many marine animals. With all of the knowledge we have there has to be a better way for testing. please stop.
Woo	Dawn	I do not condone Navy sound testing which will negatively impact marine mammals.
Wood	Kalen	Please do not continue or support the U.S. Navy's training activities in waters off the Pacific Coast. The Navy has admitted that the sonar tests will cause harm to whales and dolphins ranging from discomfort to disorientation to permanent

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		deafness which would interfere with navigation, self defense and finding food thereby seriously impairing their ability to survive. Increased beaching and deaths of marine mammals have certainly been linked to previous Navy sound testing. Unless it is a time of war with imminent threat these tests should not be performed in areas known to be frequently passaged by whales and dolphins or within effective range of whales and dolphins. Please limit Navy sound testing to areas outside the known paths of migration, reproduction and feeding of whales and dolphins and other effected marine mammals. Please also require scanning for the presence of marine mammals within the disturbance zone prior to testing and delay testing until the marine mammals depart from the affected area. We are meant to be stewards of the earth, yet everywhere we here of inhumane treatment of the fellow creatures with which we share this beautiful planet. I want the U.S. Navy to protect all of life and not disregard the harm done to whales and dolphins in the name of human security. Protecting all of life enhances all of our security. THANK YOU!
Wood	Melissa	The navy is a very important part of our country and I support the men and women who serve in our navy. They have bravely fought on behalf of the United States in wars that most of us might not agree with, yet they have pledged to protect and serve against all cost. So I am outraged that the navy would put our ocean mammals at risk. We must protect them as well as our people. Please do not move forward with implementing this harmful technology. Remember what you stand for and your pledge to protect innocent lives.
Woodward	Susan	Stop. Stop stop stop. THINK. Explosives and sonar testing? Really? COME ON. We would ask you to give serious consideration to just how necessary these proposed exercises are and where the benefits of them lie versus the destruction of marine life that so many dedicated citizens have worked tirelessly to preserve and enhance for both current and future generations. Susan Woodward
Woolley	Colette	PLEASE CONDUCT YOUR EXPERIMENTS AWAY FROM ALL MAMMALS SO THEY ARE NOT AFFECTED BY THE LOUD NOISES AND EXPOSIVES...IT SURELY CAN BE DONE SOMEWHERE AWAY FROM ALL MAMMALS...WE DON'T NEED ANY OF THESE SPECIES TO BE ENDANGERED OR WORSE...THERE IS ALWAYS A BETTER OR OTHER CHOICES... THANK YOU... C.WOOLLEY
Woolley	Colette	PLEASE RECONSIDER WHERE YOU WILL CONDUCT YOUR EERCISES SO THEY WILL NOT AFFECT THESE MAMMALS...IT SHOULD NOT BE NECESSARY TO DISTURB OR HARM THESE MAMMALS...THERE ARE ALTERNATIVE WAYS...PLEASE CHOICE AN ALTERNATIVE...THANK YOU.. COLETTE WOOLLEY
Wright	Susan	Please consider how important the balance of the Ocean Environment is to our lives. These amazing intelligent mammals deserved not to be harmed
Wyse	Thomas	Plenty of people are already stating well thought out reasons why this is a poor choice. Let's be frank - stop it. Marauding all over the planet destroying cultures and species that can never be replaced is poor behaviour. We were all taught this as children. Please stop.
Xander	Trey	I am greatly concerned about the horrific impact of the mass use of sonar, sonar testing, and the auditory effects of explosions in waters which contain wildlife dependent upon hearing for navigation, calving, feeding, social interaction and development, and their entire existence. These mammals are highly intelligent; massive sonar blasts that inflict immense pain, disability and death are cruel, and will have a profoundly negative impact on entire social pod structures throughout the waters where this is used. If we, as a nation and military, are to use such methods in our arsenal, there MUST be safeguards in place to minimize negative impacts, and to protect the wildlife in the waters where we operate. Anything less is an exercise in animal cruelty and negligence unparalleled in human maritime existence. There is proof that intense mechanical sonar blasts can rupture the eardrums and cause life-threatening damage to dolphins and whales -- this is not only a fatal impact, but one which is extremely painful, causing these animals to die in agony. I believe there is no excuse whatsoever for the mass slaughter of our marine mammals on such an unimaginable scale, should this technology's use be widened and exercised with impunity throughout our national and international waters. Thank you for your consideration.

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Yager Delagrange	Patricia	Please do not kill marine life because of the explosive testing planned off the coasts of California and Hawaii.
Youngs	Lauren	Please Protect these mammals
Yushin	Pasha	Karma and compassion are universal concepts. Treat others as you'd like to be treated. We urge you to cease military action that would kill and disfigure life in the ocean and elsewhere. Sincerely, P. Yushin Honolulu, HI
Zehel	Rae	I am outraged that the U.S. Navy would go ahead with sonar testing that could kill and harm marine mammals 2.8 million times a year over a five year period. The proposed training and testing activities off the coasts of Hawaii, Southern California, the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf States from 2014 to 2019 gives these figures in your Draft Environmental Impact Statements. The Navy's projected damage to whales and dolphins is astounding. It is a vast increase over previous estimates of potential harm for the same regions. The numbers for far-reaching harm that will be inflicted on marine mammals during these testing activities is staggering: over 5,000,000 instances of temporary hearing loss, 16,000 instances of permanent hearing loss, almost 9,000 lung injuries, and over 1,800 deaths. An estimated 11,200 whales and dolphins will be deafened. What is unstated is that whales and dolphins depend on sound to navigate, communicate and survive. What is not presented in your analysis are reasonable alternatives to reduce the unprecedented damage to marine animals. Your mitigation plan, based on the ability of lookouts to detect whales and dolphins, will not achieve a significant reduction in damage to marine life. These same plans have been found by Federal courts to be inadequate and ineffective. Visual surveillance may be impaired at sea and unsuitable for distinguishing deep-diving species that spend little time at the surface. If fully effective, it would only protect species from the most serious injuries. I call on the Navy to please identify and set aside areas of high marine mammal density which is acknowledged to be the most effective means of reducing marine mammal injury. If the United States and its Navy wish to be seen as a leader in saving marine life, it must significantly reduce the levels of death and injury to whales, dolphins and other marine life involved in these plans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
Zelkovsky	Robert	Why is the ocean constantly being treated like some non-living non life supporting entity? Just because it is so large and pervasive and because human mistakes seem to disappear over time does not mean that the ocean is unaffected. The ocean supports life and food for people but somehow it is treated like a third class citizen. Recently on Kauai there was an electrical short in a sewage treatment plant. So automatically the partially treated sewage was dumped into the ocean, using it like a cesspool. I say no to using the ocean for any kind of testing.
Zorn	Mary	Please, just reconsider. Have we not done enough to harm our one frontier that is essential to the human race's continued preservation? Continuing efforts that harm more species is hardly moving forward, and for what cost? The cost is immeasurable, and potentially, irreversible. Please, just reconsider.
Zuckert	J	I am opposed to Alternative 2. Any expansion of training would be detrimental to marine mammals and sea turtles. The Navy has adequate ocean area for training already and should not increase its footprint of disruption of natural processes and sea life. The EIS states the negative and unacceptable impacts quite succinctly: The aggregate impacts of past, present, and other reasonably foreseeable future actions are expected to result in significant impacts on marine mammal and sea turtle species.
Zullo	Bill	I am astounded at the lack of regard for our marine wildlife by the Navy, yet another example of "Do what I say, not what I do" by a United States Government organization. What is the difference between those Japanese vessels killing and hauling mother whales and this, NOTHING....thats what!!!! As a former U.S. Marine and loyal U.S Citizen that is decorated in defending this county, I am ashamed of our Navy and Governemnt, and it gets harder every day to call myself a proud American. Where are the environmentalist and other watchdog organizations that need to step up and protect us from our government.... HELP US HELP OURSELVES!