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Annual Range Complex Unclassified Exercise Report

YEAR 2

02 May 2011 to 01 May 2012

**For The U.S. Navy's
Northwest Training Range Complex (NWTRC)**

01 July 2012



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NORTHWEST TRAINING RANGE COMPLEX YEAR 2 ANNUAL EXERCISE REPORT

INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Navy prepared this Year 2 Annual Range Complex Exercise Report covering the period from 02 May 2011 to 01 May 2012 in compliance with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Final Rule under the Marine Mammal Protection Act for the Northwest Training Range Complex (NWTRC). The actual amount of sonar and explosives use for the NWTRC and other range complexes is classified and has been submitted to the National Marine Fisheries Service in a separate classified report.

The following report subsections were specified by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS):

- (1) Anti-submarine warfare (ASW) summary
 - (i) Total annual hours of each type of sonar source
 - (ii) Cumulative Impact Report
- (2) Sinking Exercises (SINKEX) summary
 - (i) Exercise information
 - (ii) Individual marine mammal observations during SINKEX
- (3) Improved Extended Echo Ranging (IEER)/Advanced Extended Echo Ranging (AEER) summary
 - (i) Total number of IEER and AEER events
 - (ii) Total expended/detonated rounds (buoys)
 - (iii) Total number of self-scuttled IEER rounds
- (4) Explosives summary
 - (i) Total annual number of each type of explosive exercise
 - (ii) Total annual expended/detonated rounds for each explosive type

(1) ASW summary

(i) Total annual hours of each type of sonar source

Table 1. Authorized sonar sources per §218.110 of NMFS' NWTRC Final Rule and Navy use in the NWTRC.

System	Type ¹	Metric	NMFS Authorized		Navy 5-Year Used Since 12 Nov 2010	Navy Annual Used 02 May 2011 to 01 May 2012	% Total Used of 5- Year Authorized	% Total Used of Annual Authorized
			5-Year	Annual Average 12 Nov 2010 to 11 Nov 2011				
(i) AN/SQS-53	HM	hours	215	43	*	*	*	*
(ii) AN/SQS-56	HM	hours	325	65	*	*	*	*
(iii) AN/SSQ-62 DICASS	AS	# of buoys ²	4,430	886	*	*	*	*
(vi) MK-48	TS	# of torpedoes	10	2	*	*	*	*
(v) AN/BQQ-15	HM	hours	210	42	*	*	*	*
(vi) AN/SSQ-125 (AEER)	AS	# of buoys	745 ₃	149 ₃	*	*	*	*
(vii) Range Pingers	TR	hours	900	180	*	*	*	*
(viii) PUTR Uplink	TR	hours	750	150	*	*	*	*

Notes:

¹ HM= hull-mounted active sonar; AS= active acoustic sonobuoy; TS= torpedo active sonar; TR= transponder

² ULT data does not report number of buoys deployed, only sonar hours. DICASS buoy numbers in this table based on conservative estimate of 7.5 minutes of active sonar per buoy (8 buoys per hour)

³ in combination with AN/SSQ-110A IEER explosive sonobuoy

*classified data

(ii) Cumulative Impact Summary

This is the second annual exercise report for the NWTRC. As per similar reports for other Navy range complexes, positional plots of hull-mounted sonar use within a given region, including NWTRC, has been deemed classified national security information. There currently is no method to declassify the sensitivity of this data in order to publish this type of information in an unclassified report. For this reason the only method available for this information to be disseminated for the foreseeable future is in the classified version of this annual exercise report.

(2) Sinking Exercises (SINKEX) summary

There were no SINKEXs within the NWTRC during this reporting period.

(3) Improved Extended Echo Ranging (IEER)/Advanced Extended Echo Ranging (AEER) Summary

Table 2. IEER and AEER use in the NWTRC.

Period	# Events	# Expended	# Detonated	# Self-scuttled
02 May 2011 to 01 May 2012	*	*	*	*

*classified data

(4) Explosives Summary

Table 3. Authorized explosive sources per §218.110 of NMFS' NWTRC Final Rule and Navy use in the NWTRC.

Exercise Type	NMFS Authorized		Navy Used		% Total Used of 5-Year Authorized	% Total Used of Annual Authorized
	5-Year	Annual Average 12 Nov 2010 to 11 Nov 2011	5-Year	Annual 02 May 2011 to 01 May 2012		
(A) Surface to Surface Gunnery (S-S GUNEX)	1,700	340	*	*	*	*
(B) Bombing Exercise (BOMBEX)	150	30	*	*	*	*
(C) Sinking Exercises (SINKEX)	10	2	*	*	*	*
(D) IEER\AEER Exercises	60	12	*	*	*	*
Explosive Type						
	5" naval gun round		*	*	*	*
	76 mm naval gun round		*	*	*	*
	Maverick air-launched missile		*	*	*	*
	Harpoon ship, sub or air-launched missile		*	*	*	*
	MK-82 aerial bomb		*	*	*	*
	MK-48 submarine launched torpedo		*	*	*	*
	Demolition charge		*	*	*	*
	AN/SSQ-110A sonobuoy		*	*	*	*
	HARM air-launched missile		*	*	*	*
	Hellfire air-launched missile		*	*	*	*
	SLAM air-launched missile		*	*	*	*
	GBU 10,12,16 aerial bomb		*	*	*	*