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National Marine Fisheries Service
Office of Protected Resources

Prepared by:

Department of the Navy

In accordance with the Letters of Authorization
Under the MMPA and ITS authorization under
the ESA 09 November 2015

Corrected Copy of NWTT Annual Unclassified Exercise Report

**09 November 2015 through
08 November 2016
First Year**

**For The U.S. Navy's
Northwest Training and Testing (NWTT)
Study Area**

23 February 2017

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ANNUAL NWTT EXERCISE REPORT

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ANNUAL NORTHWEST TRAINING REPORT

INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Navy prepared this Annual Report covering the period from 09 November 2015 through 08 November 2016 in compliance with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Final Rule under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) for the Northwest Training and Testing (NWTT) Study Area.

In the NWTT Study Area Letter of Authorization¹ “Requirements for annual Exercise and Testing Reports” are specified in paragraph 7.(e).

The information in this annual report represents the best practical data collection for this period.

(1) NWTT – Description of the level of training conducted in the NWTT during the reporting period

The level of training within the NWTT study area continues to be low. Use of all authorized sound sources was well within the amounts described and analyzed in the NWTT EIS/OEIS and the NWTT Letter of Authorization.

(2) NWTT – Summary of Sources Used During Training

Total annual usage of each type of sound source

This section summarizes total annual usage of each type of sound source used within NWTT for training. Amount of actual sonar use was provided to the National Marine Fisheries Service in the classified version of this report.

Table 2-1. Training sound source usage within the NWTT Study Area by source bin.

(2)(i) Authorized training sound sources 50 CFR §218.145(g)		Authorized Amount (09 Nov 15- 08Nov16)	Actual Usage (09 Nov 15- 08Nov16)	% Used of Authorized Amount
MF1		166 hours	#	#
MF3		70 hours	#	#
MF4		4 hours	#	#
MF5		896 items	#	#
MF11		16 hours	#	#
HF1		48 hours	#	#
HF4		394 hours	#	#
HF6		192 items	#	#
ASW2		720 items	#	#
ASW3		78 hours	#	#
(2)(ii) Authorized training sound sources 50 CFR §218.145(g)		Authorized Amount (09 Nov 15- 08Nov16)	Actual Usage (09 Nov 15- 08Nov16)	% Used of Authorized Amount
E1	0.1 lb to 0.25 lb NEW	48 detonations	0 detonations	0%
E3	>0.5 lb to 2.5 lb NEW	6 detonations	0 detonations	0%
E5	>5 lb to 10 lb NEW	80 detonations	0 detonations	0%
E10	>250 lb to 500 lb NEW	4 detonations	0 detonations	0%
E12	>650 lb to 1,000 lb NEW	10 detonations	0 detonations	0%

#Classified information

Table 2-2. 5-year cumulative training sound source usage within the NWTT Study Area by source bin.

(2) (iii) Active Acoustic Sources Used During Annual Training				
Sound Source Bin	Year 1 Actual Usage (09 Nov 15-08Nov16)	5-year Authorized Amount (09 Nov 15-08Nov16)	5-yr Cumulative Usage (09 Nov 15-08Nov16)	% Used of 5-yr Authorized Amount
MF1	#	830 hours	#	#
MF3	#	350 hours	#	#
MF4	#	20 hours	#	#
MF5	#	4,480 items	#	#
MF11	#	80 hours	#	#
HF1	#	240 hours	#	#
HF4	#	1,970 hours	#	#
HF6	#	960 hours	#	#
ASW2	#	3,600 items	#	#
ASW3	#	390 hours	#	#
(2) (iii) Explosive Sources Used During Annual Training				
Sound Source Bin	Year 1 Actual Usage (09 Nov 15-08Nov16)	5-year Authorized Amount (09 Nov 15-08Nov16)	5-yr Cumulative Usage	% Used of 5-yr Authorized Amount
E1	0	240 detonations	0	0%
E3	0	30 detonations	0	0%
E5	0	400 detonations	0	0%
E10	0	20 detonations	0	0%
E12	0	50 detonations	0	0%

#Classified information

(3) Annual Number of Explosive Training Exercises Conducted

Table 3-1.

Type of Explosive Exercise	Number of Exercises
EOD UNDETS	1 (1 event, single 1 gram NEW <E1)
HE Bombing Exercises	0
HE Missile Exercises	0
HE Gunnery Exercises	0

(4) Improved Extended Echo-Ranging System (IEER) sonobuoy training summary

IEER sonobuoys were not used within the NWTT for training. IEER buoys have been phased out of the inventory for training, were not requested for use within the NWTT study area, and are no longer planned or anticipated to be used during Navy training in the NWTT study area.

(5) Special NWTT Reporting Areas for Mid-Frequency and High-Frequency Sonar Use

The use of Mid-Frequency and High –Frequency sonar within the boundaries of the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary, the Humpback Whale Northern Washington Feeding Area, the Stonewall and Heceta Bank Feeding Area, and the Gray Whale Northern Puget Sound Feeding Area did not exceed annual authorized levels. Actual sonar levels utilized were provided to the National Marine Fisheries Service in the classified version of this report.

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