

Prepared for and submitted to:

National Marine Fisheries Service
Office of Protected Resources

Prepared by:

Department of the Navy

In accordance with the Letter of Authorization
Under the MMPA and ITS authorization under
the ESA

09 November 2015

Annual Testing Report

09 November 2017 through
08 November 2018
Third Year

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

08 February 2019

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NORTHWEST TRAINING AND TESTING ANNUAL TESTING REPORT

INTRODUCTION

The Naval Sea Systems Command prepared this Annual Testing Report covering the period from 09 November 2017 to 08 November 2018 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 Authorization “Requirements Annual Exercise and Testing Reports” are specified in paragraph 7(e).

The information in this Annual Testing Report represents the best practical data collection for this period.

(1) NWTT – Description of the Level of Testing Conducted in the NWTT Study Area during the Reporting Period

The level of testing within the NWTT study area was 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 Non-Impulsive and Impulsive Sources Used

(i) Total annual and 5-year cumulative usage of each type of sound source

This section summarizes total annual and cumulative 5-year usage of each type of sound source used within the NWTT study area.

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

| Authorized testing sound sources 50 CFR §218.144 | | Authorized Amount (09 Nov 17- 08 Nov 18) | Actual Usage (09 Nov 17- 08 Nov 18) | % Used of Authorized Amount |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Active Acoustic Sources Used | | | | |
| LF4 | Low frequency sources from 180 dB up to 200 dB | 110 hours | * | * |
| LF5 | Low frequency sources from 160 dB up to 180 dB | 71 hours | * | * |
| MF1 | Hull-mounted sonars (e.g. SQS-53) | 32 hours | * | * |
| MF3 | Hull-mounted sonar (e.g. BQQ-10) | 145 hours | * | * |
| MF4 | Helicopter dipping sonar (e.g. AQS-13/22) | 10 hours | * | * |
| MF5 | Acoustic sonobuoys (e.g. SSQ-62) | 273 items | * | * |
| MF6 | Underwater sound signaling devices (e.g. MK 84 SUS) | 12 items | * | * |
| MF8 | Other active sources greater than 200dB | 40 hours | * | * |
| MF9 | Other active sources from 180 dB up to 200 dB | 1183 hours | * | * |
| MF10 | Other active sources from 160 dB up to 180 dB | 1156 hours | * | * |
| MF11 | Hull mounted surface ship sonar with an active duty cycle of greater than 80% | 34 hours | * | * |
| MF12 | High duty cycle towed array sonars (e.g. HDC-VDS) | 24 hours | * | * |
| HF1 | Hull-mounted submarine sonar (e.g. BQQ-10) | 161 hours | * | * |
| HF3 | Other hull-mounted submarine sonars | 145 hours | * | * |
| HF5 | Other active sources greater than 200dB | 360 hours | * | * |

| | | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|----|
| HF6 | Other active sources from 180 dB up to 200 dB | 2099 hours | * | * |
| VHF2 | Active sources with a frequency greater than 100 kHz, up to 200 kHz with a source level less than 200 dB | 35 hours | * | * |
| ASW1 | Mid-frequency Deep Water Active Distributed System (DWADS) | 16 hours | * | * |
| ASW2 | Mid-frequency Multi-static Active Coherent sonobuoy (e.g. SSQ-125) | 170 items | * | * |
| ASW2 | Mid-frequency Multi-static Active Coherent sonobuoy (e.g. SSQ-125) | 64 hours | * | * |
| ASW3 | Mid-frequency towed acoustic countermeasure (e.g. SLQ-25) | 444 hours | * | * |
| ASW4 | Mid-frequency expendable acoustic device countermeasure (e.g. MK 3) | 1182 devices | * | * |
| M3 | Mid-frequency acoustic modems (greater than 190 dB) | 1519 hours | | |
| TORP1 | Lightweight torpedo (e.g. MK 46, MK 54) | 315 items | * | * |
| TORP2 | Heavyweight torpedo (e.g. MK48) | 299 items | * | * |
| SD1 | Swimmer detection sonars | 757 hours | * | * |
| SAS2 | HF SAS Systems | 798 hours | * | * |
| Explosive sources used | | | | |
| E3 | >0.5 lb. to 2.5 lb. NEW | 72 detonations | 0 | 0% |
| E4 | >2.5 lb. to 5 lb. NEW | 140 detonations (70 sonobuoys) | 0 | 0% |
| E8 | >60 lb. to 100 lb. NEW | 3 detonations | 0 | 0% |
| E11 | >500 lb. to 650 lb. NEW | 3 detonations | 0 | 0% |

*Information is presented in the classified version of this report.

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

| Sound Source Bin | Year 1 Actual Usage | Year 2 Actual Usage | Year 3 Actual Usage | 5-yr Authorized Amount | 5-yr Cumulative Actual Usage | % Used of 5-yr Authorized Amount |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | (09 Nov 15-08 Nov 16) | (09 Nov 16-08 Nov 17) | (09 Nov 17-08 Nov 18) | | | |
| Active Acoustic Sources Used During Annual Testing | | | | | | |
| LF4 | * | * | * | 550 hours | * | * |
| LF5 | * | * | * | 355 hours | * | * |
| MF1 | * | * | * | 160 hours | * | * |
| MF3 | * | * | * | 725 hours | * | * |
| MF4 | * | * | * | 50 hours | * | * |
| MF5 | * | * | * | 1365 items | * | * |
| MF6 | * | * | * | 60 items | * | * |
| MF8 | * | * | * | 200 hours | * | * |
| MF9 | * | * | * | 5915 hours | * | * |
| MF10 | * | * | * | 5780 hours | * | * |
| MF11 | * | * | * | 170 hours | * | * |
| MF12 | * | * | * | 120 hours | * | * |
| HF1 | * | * | * | 805 hours | * | * |

| | | | | | | |
|-------|---|---|---|---------------------------------|---|----|
| HF3 | * | * | * | 725 hours | * | * |
| HF5 | * | * | * | 1800 hours | * | * |
| HF6 | * | * | * | 10495 hours | * | * |
| ASW2 | * | * | * | 850 items | * | * |
| ASW2 | * | * | * | 320 hours | * | * |
| ASW3 | * | * | * | 2220 hours | * | * |
| ASW4 | * | * | * | 5910 items | * | * |
| M3 | * | * | * | 7595 hours | * | * |
| TORP1 | * | * | * | 1575 items | * | * |
| TORP2 | * | * | * | 1495 items | * | * |
| SD1 | * | * | * | 3785 hours | * | * |
| SAS2 | * | * | * | 3990 hours | * | * |
| | | | | Explosive Sources Used | | |
| E3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 360 detonations | 0 | 0% |
| E4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 700 detonations (350 sonobuoys) | 0 | 0% |
| E8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 detonations | 0 | 0% |
| E11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 detonations | 0 | 0% |

*Information is presented in the classified version of this report.

(3) Annual Number of Explosive Testing Events Conducted

Table 3-1 Annual Number of Explosive Testing Events Conducted

| Type of Explosive Exercise | Number of Events |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Anti-Submarine Warfare Tracking Tests – Marine Patrol Aircraft (MK61, MK64 and MK82) | 0 |

(4) Improved Extended Echo-Ranging System (IEER) Sonobuoy Testing

IEER sonobuoys (E4) were not used within the NWT Study Area for testing.

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

(i) No use of mid-frequency or high-frequency sonar occurred within the boundaries of the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary during the reporting period.

(ii) No use of mid-frequency or high-frequency sonar occurred within the boundaries of the Humpback Whale Northern Feeding Area during the May-November timeframe.

(iii) No use of mid-frequency or high-frequency sonar occurred within the boundaries of the Stonewall and Heceta Bank Feeding Area during the May-November timeframe.

(iv) No use of mid-frequency or high-frequency sonar occurred within the boundaries of the Grey Whale Northern Puget Sound Feeding Area during the March-May timeframe.