

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY U.S. FLEET FORCES COMMAND 1562 MITSCHER AVENUE SUITE 250 NORFOLK VA 23551-2487

5090 Ser N46/012 March 25, 2024

Ms. Kimberly Damon-Randall Director, Office of Protected Resources NMFS/NOAA 1315 East-West Highway, SSMC3, Room 13821 Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282

Dear Ms. Damon-Randall:

The Atlantic Fleet Training and Testing (AFTT) Annual Monitoring Report fulfills reporting requirements of National Marine Fisheries Service's Final Rule, Letters of Authorization (LOAs), and Incidental Take Statements under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and Endangered Species Act authorizations. The full report with all enclosures is available on the United States (U.S.) Navy marine species monitoring website (http://www.navymarinespeciesmonitoring.us/).

This report presents an overview of all U.S. Navy monitoring efforts within the AFTT Study Area in 2023. Though the AFTT LOA permit period is from November 14, 2022 to November 13, 2023, the monitoring report is based on calendar year.

Note, the 2023 Annual AFTT Exercise and Testing Report was forwarded separately to your office on January 30, 2024 (unclassified portion).

If you have any questions regarding these reports or the procedures being implemented, please contact Ms. Laura Busch at (757) 836-8471.

Sincerely,

M. L. AGUAYO Director, Fleet Installations and Environment and Deputy Chief of Staff

Copy to: Ms. Tanya Dobrzynski, NMFS Office of Protected Resources Ms. Jolie Harrison, NMFS Office of Protected Resources CNO WASHINGTON DC (OPNAV N4I)

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