



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

COMMANDER
UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET
250 MAKALAPA DRIVE
PEARL HARBOR, HAWAII 96860-3131

IN REPLY REFER TO:

5090

Ser N465/1429

November 26, 2019

Norm Regis
Seward Harbor
PO Box 167
1300 4th Street
Seward, AK 99664

Dear Harbormaster Regis:

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE CIVILIAN PORT DEFENSE TRAINING
ACTIVITIES DRAFT PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

This letter is to inform you that the Department of the Navy (Navy) has prepared a Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) for potential future Civilian Port Defense (CPD) exercises to train military personnel in the skills necessary to ensure United States ports remain free of navigational hazards. CPD activities would occur on the West Coast of the United States in 2020, and typically in every other subsequent year, at any of nine possible locations identified by the Surface and Mine Warfighting Development Center and described in Action Alternatives 1 through 10 of the PEA. The Navy welcomes your review and comments on the Draft PEA.

The Navy's Proposed Action is to conduct underwater threat warfare training over multiple weeks utilizing a variety of assets and scenarios in any of nine identified proposed action areas in Alaska and California. One or more locations would be selected prior to the conduct of any exercises, and not all proposed action areas may be utilized. **For the purposes of this activity, the only proposed action area is the Juneau proposed action area, in which a two-week training activity would be conducted in March 2020;** this exercise would include underwater devices, unmanned underwater vehicles, small boats, Explosive Ordnance Disposal dive personnel, and limited use of high-frequency active acoustics.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to train military personnel in the skills necessary to ensure United States ports remain free of navigational hazards. Ultimately, these Navy training activities are needed to support the Department of Defense mission to defend United States territory from attack by state and non-state entities. Naval forces provide underwater threat warfare capabilities to defend the homeland per the Maritime Operational Threat Response Plan. These training activities are conducted in conjunction with other federal agencies, principally the Department of Homeland Security.

The Draft PEA is available at <https://navfac.navy.mil/NWNEPA>. Printed and digital copies of the Draft PEA are available for public review at the following locations:

- Kodiak Public Library, 612 Egan Way, Kodiak, AK 99615
- Z. J. Loussac Library, 3600 Denali Street, Anchorage, AK 99503
- Seward Community Library & Museum, 239 6th Avenue, Seward, AK 99664.
- Juneau Public Library Downtown Branch, 292 Marine Way, Juneau, AK 99801
- Alaska State Library, 395 Whittier St, Juneau, AK 99801
- San Francisco Public Library, 100 Larkin Street, San Francisco, CA 94102
- Richmond Public Library, 235 Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, CA 94804
- Concord Public Library, 2900 Salvio St, Concord, CA 94519
- Oakland Public Library, 125 14th Street, Oakland, CA 94612
- Ray D. Preuter Library, 510 Park Ave, Port Hueneme, CA 93041
- South Oxnard Branch Library, 4300 Saviers Road, Oxnard, CA 93033
- Los Angeles Central Library, 630 W. 5th St, Los Angeles, CA 90071
- Seal Beach Public Library, 707 Electric Ave, Seal Beach, CA 90740
- Long Beach Public Library Main Branch, 200 W Broadway, Long Beach, CA 90802

The Navy will accept comments throughout the public comment period from December 4, 2019 to January 3, 2020. All comments must be postmarked or received online by **January 3, 2020**, for consideration in the Final PEA. All comments submitted during the comment period will become part of the public record, and substantive comments will be addressed in the Final PEA.

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Comments may be submitted online at <https://navfac.navy.mil/NWNEPA>, by email at **NUWC_NPT_NEPA.fct@navy.mil**, or by mail to:

Naval Undersea Warfare Center
Attn: CPD Project Lead/ Code 1023
1176 Howell St; Bldg 679 F1 2
Newport, RI 02841

If you would like additional information or to receive a project briefing, please contact the CPD Pacific Fleet Environmental Readiness Project Manager, Mr. John Van Name, at john.vanname@navy.mil or Ms. Suzanne Smith, at Suzanne.smith3@navy.mil.

Please help the Navy inform the community about the availability of the Draft PEA by sharing this information with your staff and interested individuals.

Sincerely,



D. A. McNAIR
Director, Environmental Readiness Division
By direction of the Commander

- Enclosures: 1. Regional Overview of CPD Exercise Locations
2. West Coast Civilian Port Defense Draft PEA (CD-ROM)

Enclosure 1: Overview of Proposed Civilian Port Defense Exercise Locations

