

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

# **Annual Range Complex Exercise Report**

## **YEAR 1**

**12 November 2010 to 01 May 2011**

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

**01 July 2011**

**UNCLASSIFIED**



**Table of Contents**

Introduction	1
ASW Summary	2
SINKEX Summary	2
IEER/AEER Summary	2
Explosive Summary	3

# NORTHWEST TRAINING RANGE COMPLEX YEAR 1 ANNUAL EXERCISE REPORT

## INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Navy prepared this Year 1 Annual Range Complex Exercise Report covering the period from 12 November 2010 to 01 May 2011 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 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 (portions CLASSIFIED)
  - (ii) Cumulative Impact Report (CLASSIFIED)

To the extent practical, the Navy, shall develop and implement a method of annually reporting non-major training [i.e., Unit Level Training (ULT)] utilizing hull-mounted sonar. The report shall present an annual (a seasonal, where practical) depiction of non major training geographically across the NWTRC. The Navy shall include a brief annual progress update on the status of the development of an effective and unclassified method to report this information until an agreed-upon (with NMFS) method has been developed and implemented.
- (2) Sinking Exercises (SINEX) summary
  - (i) Exercise information
  - (ii) Individual marine mammal observations during SINEX
- (3) Improved Extended Echo Ranging (IEER)/Advanced Extended Echo Ranging (AEER) summary
  - (i) Total number of IEER and AEER events (CLASSIFIED)
  - (ii) Total expended/detonated rounds (buoys) (CLASSIFIED)
  - (iii) Total number of self-scuttled IEER rounds (CLASSIFIED)
- (4) Explosives summary
  - (i) Total annual number of each type of explosive exercise (CLASSIFIED)
  - (ii) Total annual expended/detonated rounds for each explosive type (CLASSIFIED)

All information marked as CLASSIFIED in this report can be found in the classified NWTRC Year 1 Annual Range Complex Report.

**(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 <sup>1</sup>	Metric	NMFS Authorized		Navy 5-Year Used Since 12 Nov 2010	Navy Annual Used 12 Nov 2010 to 01 May 2011 (50% of full year)	% 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 <sup>2</sup>	4,430	886	*	*	*	*
(vi) MK-48	TS	# of torpedoes	10	2	*	*	*	*
(v) AN/BQQ-15	HM	hours	210	42	*	*	*	*
(vi) AN/SSQ-125 (AEER) <sup>3</sup>	AS	# of buoys	745	149	*	*	*	*
(vii) Range Pingers	TR	hours	900	180	*	*	*	*
(viii) PUTR Uplink	TR	hours	750	150	*	*	*	*

\* CLASSIFIED data

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> HM= hull-mounted active sonar; AS= active acoustic sonobuoy; TS= torpedo active sonar; TR= transponder<sup>2</sup> 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)<sup>3</sup> in combination with AN/SSQ-110A IEER explosive sonobuoy(ii) Cumulative Impact Summary

This is the first 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. The Navy has made improvement, starting with other range complexes and their associated NMFS authorizations, in the ability to export classified use information and plot within geographical information systems (GIS). This year's geographic cumulative impact summary is provided in the classified NWTRC Year 1 Annual Exercise Report.

This assessment constitutes this year's progress update for the NWTRC.

**(2) Sinking Exercises (SINKEX) summary**

There were no SINKEXs within the NWTRC 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
12 Nov 2010 to 01 May 2011	*	*	*	*

## (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 Average 12 Nov 2010 to 11 Nov 2011		
(A) Surface to Surface Gunnery (S-S GUNEX)	1,700	340	*	*	*	*
(B) Bombing Exercise (BOMBEX)	150	30	*	*	*	*
(C) Sinking Exercises (SINKEX)	10	2	0	0	0	0
(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		*	*		

\* CLASSIFIED data

