



**COMMANDER, NAVY REGION HAWAII &
NAVAL SURFACE GROUP MIDDLE PACIFIC**

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
850 TICONDEROGA STREET, SUITE 110
PEARL HARBOR, HAWAII 96860
PHONE: 808-473-2888 FAX: 808-473-2876
www.cnmc.navy.mil/hawaii



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Release #024-10

July 15, 2010

NAVY SEEKS PUBLIC INPUT AT OPEN HOUSE SCOPING MEETINGS

PEARL HARBOR -- The Navy has published a Notice of Intent (NOI) in the Federal Register to prepare the Hawaii-Southern California Training and Testing (HSTT) Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) to evaluate potential environmental effects associated with training and testing activities in the HSTT study area in order to maintain fleet readiness.

The Navy is initiating the scoping process to identify community concerns and issues for analysis in the EIS/OEIS. The Navy is seeking public involvement and input, which are a fundamental part of the Navy's EIS/OEIS development under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). As part of the public participation process, the Navy will hold meetings in Southern California and Hawaii next month to obtain public input on the scope of the HSTT EIS/OEIS.

The HSTT study area encompasses the at-sea portions of Navy range complexes and research, development, testing and evaluation (RDT&E) ranges around Hawaii and off the coast of Southern California, including San Diego Bay and the in-water areas of the Silver Strand Training Complex. The HSTT study area also includes the transit route between Hawaii and Southern California as well as Navy and commercial piers at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and San Diego, Calif., where sonar maintenance and testing may occur. Land-based portions of these range complexes and RDT&E ranges are not a part of the HSTT study area and will not be analyzed.

Navy training and testing in these areas were already analyzed in the Hawaii Range Complex EIS/OEIS and the Southern California Range Complex EIS/OEIS, completed in 2008 and 2009, respectively, along with the pending Silver Strand Training Complex EIS/OEIS. The HSTT EIS will reassess and validate the environmental impacts evaluated in the previous EIS/OEISs and consolidate three separate EIS/OEIS documents (Hawaii, Southern California and Silver Strand) into a single document. This effort will also include and analyze anticipated new weapons and systems as well as any adjustments to naval training and testing necessary.

The public is invited to attend open-house style scoping meetings for information about the Navy's proposed action and to give written and oral comments on environmental aspects to be addressed in the EIS/OEIS. The public may arrive any time during each scoping meeting. There will be no formal presentation; however, Navy experts will be on hand to answer questions about the proposed action and general inquiries about the NEPA process.

- more -

SCOPING MEETINGS 2-2-2-2

All written comments must be postmarked or received during the comment period to be considered in the Draft EIS/OEIS process. Written comments must be postmarked by Sept. 14 and mailed to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Southwest
Attention: Mr. Kent Randall - HSTT EIS/OEIS
1220 Pacific Highway, Building 1, Floor 5
San Diego, CA, 92132

Comments may also be submitted online at www.HSTTEIS.com or at one of the four open house scoping meetings that will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. at:

Date: Tuesday, August 24, 2010

Location: Kauai Community College Cafeteria
3-1901 Kaunualii Highway
Lihue, Hawaii

Date: Wednesday, August 25, 2010

Location: Keehi Lagoon – Disabled American Veterans Hall
Weinberg Hall
2685 North Nimitz Highway
Honolulu, Hawaii

Date: Thursday, August 26, 2010

Location: Hilo High School Cafeteria
556 Waianuenue Ave.
Hilo, Hawaii

Date: Friday, August 27, 2010

Location: Maui Waena Intermediate School Cafeteria
795 Onehee Ave.
Kahului, Hawaii

Scoping meetings will also be held in Southern California on August 4 and 5, 2010.

-USN-

NOTE: Media interested in attending any of the scoping meetings or seeking further information should contact Mr. Tom Clements, Pacific Missile Range Facility Public Affairs Officer, 808-335-4740.