

PETITION TO STOP THE U.S. NAVY 5-YEAR WARFARE TESTING PROGRAMS IN THE PACIFIC, ATLANTIC & THE GULF OF MEXICO & THE "TAKING" OF 32 DIFFERENT SPECIES OF MARINE MAMMALS (11.7 Million)

Whereas, in a letter to NOAA, dated June 19, 2009, U.S. Senator Feinstein and U.S. Congressman Henry Waxman stated: "...In many regions, the Navy plans to increase the number of its exercises or expand the areas in which they may occur, and virtually every coastal state will be affected. Some exercises may occur in the nation's most biologically sensitive marine habitats, including National Marine Sanctuaries and breeding habitat for the endangered North Atlantic right whale. In all, the Navy anticipates more than 2.3 million takes (significant disruptions in marine mammal foraging, breeding, and other essential behaviors) per year, or 11.7 million takes over the course of a five-year permit..."

U.S. Department of Commerce - NOAA Definition: "TAKE" Defined *under the MMPA* as "harass, hunt, capture, kill or collect, or attempt to harass, hunt, capture, kill or collect." Defined *under the ESA* as "to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct."

With respect to military readiness activities, the MMPA defines "harassment" as: "...(i) any act that injures or has the significant potential to injure a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild [Level A Harassment]; or (ii) any act that disturbs or is likely to disturb a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild by causing disruption of natural behavioral patterns, including, but not limited to, migration, surfacing, nursing, breeding, feeding, or sheltering, to a point where such behavioral patterns are abandoned or significantly altered [Level B Harassment]...training activities may expose some of the marine mammals present in the area to sound from various mid-frequency and high-frequency active tactical sonar sources or to pressure from underwater detonations.."

Whereas, a wide variety of marine mammals have already been harmed due to Navy Warfare Testing of Weapons and Sonar (along with toxic chemicals like depleted uranium, red and white phosphorus), from 5-Year Warfare testing programs currently underway in Southern California and other areas of the Pacific, Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico;

Whereas, the Navy proposes to expand its NWT Range Complex warfare testing range to encompass more Pacific Ocean and land areas of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, California; (See: <http://www.nwtrangecomplexeis.com> Navy Environmental Impact Statement)

Therefore, we the undersigned, demand that the "taking" of marine mammals and fish be stopped and U.S. Congressional hearings be held to protect public health, air and water supplies, fish, birds, ocean habitat, our marine mammals, and other threatened and endangered species.

We further demand that NOAA, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the U.S. Department of Commerce stop any attempts by the Navy to "take", kill, maim or harm any marine mammals or fish in any ocean areas, including Alaska, by not issuing permits for any such actions to take place now or in the future. Current Navy and NOAA mitigation measures are inadequate to protect marine life, coastal regions, tourism, and human health.

Printed Name	Printed Address, City, State	Telephone #	Signature	Date
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