

**PETITION TO STOP THE PROPOSED NAVY WARFARE TESTING PROGRAM EXPANSION
& THE "TAKING" OF 32 DIFFERENT SPECIES OF MARINE MAMMALS (11.7 Million)
OVER 5 YEARS IN THE PACIFIC & ATLANTIC OCEANS & THE GULF OF MEXICO**

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."

Whereas, a wide variety of marine mammals have already died due to Navy Warfare Testing of Weapons and Sonar, currently underway in the Hawaiian Islands, the Mariana Islands, the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, off the coast of Oregon, Washington, Southern California, the Gulf of Mexico, and other areas where warfare testing is now conducted;

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

Whereas, many chemicals, like depleted uranium, red and white phosphorus, and mercury, used in these programs are toxic to humans, marine mammals, fish, wildlife, and birds and have the potential to contaminate drinking water, soil, and cause air pollution.

Whereas, the Navy has violated NEPA laws by not informing the majority of the citizens of the United States about these programs;
Whereas, the Navy admits that there are severe declines in some marine mammal and fish populations;
Whereas, the Navy will "take", harm, maim or kill approximately 2.3 million marine mammals per year over five year permits from NOAA;

Whereas, the Navy plans to increase or expand their exercise affecting every U.S. coastal state, disrupting the behavior all sea life;
Whereas, there are sensitive marine areas in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, and the Gulf of Mexico which need to be preserved and protected;
Whereas, bomb blasts in the Pacific Ocean, and sonic booms over land areas could trigger earthquakes (sonic booms have caused damage to homes in the past, in California and other states);

Therefore, we the undersigned, demand that our local, county, state and federal representatives take immediate action to stop the Navy warfare testing and warfare range expansions in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, the Gulf of Mexico, and on the land areas of Idaho, Washington, Oregon, and California;

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 all marine life.

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