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### 3.3 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

Hazardous materials addressed in this document are broadly defined as substances that pose a substantial hazard to human health or the environment by virtue of their chemical or biological properties. Hazardous materials may be solid, liquid, semi-solid, or gaseous. For the purposes of this document, the term hazardous materials refers to substances that pose a substantial hazard to human health or the environment by virtue of their chemical properties. The definition of the term “hazardous material” for this specific document does not directly utilize any specific definition for “hazardous material” under any state or federal law. Except where specifically discussed, the term “hazardous materials” does not include “hazardous waste,” a term specific to federal and state law (e.g., Resource Conservation and Recovery Act; see Section 3.3.2.1, Regulatory Framework). In general, the degree of hazard posed by these materials is related to their quantity, concentration, bioavailability, or physical state. Hazardous materials are regulated under a variety of federal and state laws (see “Regulatory Framework” in Section 3.3.2.1).

In this section the phrase “hazardous materials” refers collectively to objects or individual components and constituents of objects that may be hazardous (e.g., missile warheads and fuel). Hazardous materials are often used in small amounts in high technology weapons, ordnance, and targets because they are strong, lightweight, reliable, long lasting, or low cost (e.g., heavy metals). Hazardous materials also are required for maintenance and operation of Navy vessels, aircraft, and equipment used during training. Except where specifically discussed, the term “hazardous materials” does not include “hazardous waste,” a term specific to federal and state law (e.g., Resource Conservation and Recovery Act; see Section 3.3.2.1, Regulatory Framework). Table 3.3-1 presents training activities and associated expended training materials that involve hazardous materials.

Nonhazardous expended material is defined as parts of a device that are made of nonreactive materials, including parts made of non-toxic metals (e.g., steel, iron, aluminum); polymers (e.g., nylon, vinyl, and various other plastics); as well as rubber, glass, fiber, and concrete. Sources of these expended materials include bombs, shells, and targets. While these items represent persistent seabed litter, their resistance to degradation and their chemical composition mean that they do not chemically contaminate the surrounding environment by leaching heavy metals or organic compounds (Canadian Forces Maritime Experimental and Test Ranges [CFMETR] 2005). These materials may cause other concerns that are discussed in other sections, such as benthic communities (Section 3.6), sea turtles (Section 3.8), or marine mammals (Section 3.9). In the interest of providing a comprehensive list of materials, expended materials are included among the training materials in this section.

#### 3.3.1 Affected Environment

In the Northwest Training Range Complex (NWTRC) Study Area, hazardous materials would be used in:

- the Pacific Northwest Operations Area (PACNW OPAREA), including specific offshore areas such as Warning Area W-237;
- inshore areas in Puget Sound where underwater detonation training occurs; and
- land areas designated for land-based explosives training.

Hazardous materials are often present in varying amounts in the marine water and sediments, or on land from a variety of sources including: prior ocean dumping or land disposal; prior military activity (e.g., bombing ranges during World War II); prior commercial activity (e.g., paper mills); large spills; and as a result of ongoing activities. However, no specific information is available on the sources, types, or quantities of hazardous materials present in the Study Area at a given time.

Table 3.3-1: Number of Activities or Training Items Expended Annually – All Alternatives

Warfare Area and Location(s)	Platform	Training Items	Heavy Metals	Chemicals	Explosives	No Action Alternative	Alternative 1	% Change	Alternative 2	% Change
Air Combat Maneuvers (ACM) All MOAs/ATCAAs, W-237	EA-6B, F/A-18, F/16, EA-18G (future), and support aircraft <sup>2/3</sup>	RR-129 Chaff	✓			3,000	6,000	100.0	6,000	100.0
		Tactical air launched decoy (TALD, not recovered)	✓			0	11	–	22	–
Air-to-Air Missile Exercise <sup>1</sup> (AAMEX) W-237	EA/18G	LUU-2B/B flare (not recovered)	✓	✓		0	6	–	11	–
		AIM-7 Sparrow missile	✓	✓	✓	0	6	–	13	–
		AIM-9 Sidewinder missile	✓	✓	✓	0	5	–	9	–
		AIM-120 AMRAAM missile	✓	✓	✓	0	4	–	7	–
Surface-to-Air Gunnery Exercise <sup>1</sup> (S-A GUNEX) W-237, PACNW OPAREA	DDG, FFG, AOE	Naval 5-inch 54 BLP gun shells	✓	✓	✓	136	151	11.0	303	122.8
		20 mm cannon shells (CIWS)	✓			7,200	8,000	11.1	16,000	122.2
		7.62 mm shells				1,224	1,360	11.1	2,720	122.2
		TDU-34 towed target				72	80	11.1	160	122.2
Surface-to-Air Missile Exercise <sup>1</sup> (SAMEX) W-237, PACNW OPAREA	P-3C, Learjet or C-130 (supporting), CVN	NATO Seasparrow missile	✓	✓	✓	0	0	–	8	–
		BQM-74E target	✓	✓		0	0	–	16	–
Surface-to-Surface Gunnery Exercise <sup>1</sup> (S-S GUNEX) W-237, PACNW OPAREA	CVN, DDG (and Canadian DDH), FFH (and Canadian FFH), AOE	5-inch/54 caliber inert				1,716	2,351	37.0	3,463	101.8
		57 mm shells				630	700	11.1	1,260	100.0
		76 mm shells				560	800	11.1	1,120	100.0
		25 mm cannon shells				15,750	17,500	11.1	31,500	100.0
		.50 caliber rounds				58,500	65,000	11.1	117,000	100.0
		High speed maneuverable surface target (HSMST)		✓		0	5	–	9	–
Trimaran target					0	11	–	20	–	

Table 3.3-1: Number of Activities or Training Items Expended Annually – All Alternatives (continued)

Warfare Area and Location(s)	Platform	Training Item	Heavy Metals	Chemicals	Explosives	No Action Alternative	Alternative 1	% Change	Alternative 2	% Change
<b>S-S GUNEX</b> (cont'd)		SPAR target				0	17	–	31	–
		Killer Tomato (FAST) target				60	67	11.7	120	100.0
<b>Air-to-Surface Bombing Exercise (BOMBEX A-S)</b> W-237, PACNW OPAREA	P-3 P-8 (future)	MK-82 live bomb (500 lb, 192 NEW*)	✓		✓	8	10	25.0	10	25.0
		BDU-45 (inert)				88	110	25.0	110	25.0
		MK-58 marine marker	✓			8	10	25.8	10	25.0
		MK-82 live bomb (500 lb, 192 NEW)	✓		✓	4	8	100.0	8	100.0
<b>Sink Exercise (SINKEX)</b> W-237, PACNW OPAREA	E-2, FA-18, P-3, SH-60B P-8 (future)	MK-83 live bomb (1,000 lb, 416 NEW)	✓		✓	4	8	100.0	8	100.0
		MK-84 live bomb (2,000 lb, 945 NEW)	✓		✓	4	8	100.0	8	100.0
		AGM-88 HARM missile	✓		✓	2	4	100.0	4	100.0
		AGM-114 Hellfire missile	✓		✓	1	2	100.0	2	100.0
	CG, DDG, FFG, SSN (support)	AGM-65 Maverick missile	✓		✓	3	6	100.0	6	100.0
		AGM-84 Harpoon missile	✓		✓	3	6	100.0	6	100.0
		SLAM ER missile	✓		✓	1	2	100.0	2	100.0
		5-inch/62 mm shells				500	1,000	100.0	1,000	100.0
	76 mm shells				200	400	100.0	400	100.0	
	MK-48 ADCAP torpedo	✓		✓	1	2	100.0	2	100.0	
	Decommissioned vessel				1	2	100.0	2	100.0	

Table 3.3-1: Number of Activities or Training Items Expended Annually – All Alternatives (continued)

Warfare Area and Location(s)	Platform	Training Item	Heavy Metals	Chemicals	Explosives	No Action Alternative	Alternative 1	% Change	Alternative 2	% Change
<b>Antisubmarine Warfare Tracking Exercise (ASW TRACKEX – MPA)</b> W-237, PACNW OPAREA	P-3 P-8 (future)	MK-39 EMATT (expendable mobile ASW training target)	✓	✓	✓	25	26	4.0	26	4.0
		SSQ-36 BT passive sonobuoy	✓	✓	✓	288	295	2.4	302	4.9
		SSQ-53 DIFAR passive sonobuoy	✓	✓	✓	7,283	7,503	3.0	7,661	5.2
		SSQ-62 DICASS active sonobuoy	✓	✓	✓	844	865	2.5	886	5.0
<b>ASW Tracking Exercise – EER</b> W-237, PACNW OPAREA	P-3C, P-8 MMA	SSQ-77 VLAD passive sonobuoy	✓	✓	✓	593	623	5.1	653	10.1
		MK-58 marine marker		✓		200	205	2.5	210	5.0
		SSQ-110A source explosive sonobuoy	✓	✓	✓	124	136	9.7	149	20.2
<b>Surface Ship ASW</b>	DDG, FFG					201	221	10.0	241	19.9
<b>Submarine ASW TRACKEX</b> PACNW OPAREA	SSBN, SSGN	MK-39 EMATT (not recovered)		✓		96	100	4.2	100	4.2
<b>Electronic Combat (EC) Exercise</b> W-237A, Darrington Area	P-3, EP-3, EA-6B, EA-18G (future) CVN, DDG, FFG, AOE, SSGN, SSBN									
<b>Mine Countermeasure Training</b> EOD Crescent Harbor, EOD Indian Island, and EOD Floral Point		< 2.5 lb charge NEW		✓	✓	3	0	0	0	0
		2.5 lb charge NEW		✓	✓	51	4	-92	4	-92
		5.0 lb charge NEW		✓	✓	1	0	-100	0	-100
		20.0 lb charge NEW		✓	✓	5	0	-100	0	-100
c/										
2 / 3										

**Table 3.3-1: Number of Activities or Training Items Expended Annually – All Alternatives (continued)**

Warfare Area and Location(s)	Platform	Training Item	Heavy Metals	Chemicals	Explosives	No Action Alternative	Alternative 1	% Change	Alternative 2	% Change
<b>Land Demolitions</b> DTR Bangor, DTR Seaplane Base	Pickup Trucks (support)	C-4 – 1.25 lb block		✓	✓	1,570	1,693	7.8	1,693	7.8
		Igniters		✓	✓	170	183	7.6	183	7.6
		MK-142 firing device		✓	✓	97	104	7.2	104	7.2
		Hand grenades		✓	✓	170	183	7.6	183	7.6
		MK-174 CTG cal .50 impulse		✓	✓	901	971	7.7	971	7.7
		DataSheet 2.0 lb (M024)		✓	✓	255	276	8.2	276	8.2
		DataSheet C-2 (0.083 in.)		✓	✓	850	917	7.9	917	7.9
		C-4 – 2.0 lb block		✓	✓	255	275	7.8	275	7.8
		Blasting cap, electric (M130)		✓	✓	1,870	2,017	7.9	2,017	7.9
		Detonation cord (M456)		✓	✓	34,000 ft	36,667 ft	7.8	36,667 ft	7.8
		Timed blasting fuse (M670)		✓	✓	17,340 ft	18,700 ft	7.8	18,700 ft	7.8
		Timed blasting fuse igniter (M766)		✓	✓	340	367	7.9	367	7.9
Blasting cap, non electric (M131)		✓	✓	1,020	1,100	7.8	1,100	7.8		
Red smoke (G950)		✓		238	256	7.6	256	7.6		
Green smoke (G940)		✓		97	104	7.2	104	7.2		
Violet smoke (G955)		✓		204	220	7.8	220	7.8		

Table 3.3-1: Number of Activities or Training Items Expended Annually – All Alternatives (continued)

Warfare Area and Location(s)	Platform	Training Item	Heavy Metals	Chemicals	Explosives	No Action Alternative	Alternative 1	% Change	Alternative 2	% Change
<b>Insertion and Extraction</b> Seaplane Base, OLF Coupeville, Crescent Harbor	C-130, H-60					108	120	11.1	120	11.1
<b>HARMEX (non-firing)</b> Okanogan, Olympic, and Roosevelt MOAs	EA-6B, E/A-18 (future)	CATM-88 missile (not released); <sup>1</sup>				2,724	3,000	10.1	3,000	10.1
<b>NSW Training</b> Indian Island, Seaplane Base Survival Area	SEAL delivery vehicle, RHIB				3					
<b>Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR)</b> W-237, PACNW OPAREA	P-3C	SSQ-53 DIFAR passive sonobuoy	✓	✓	✓	980	1,043	6.4	1,043	6.4
<b>UAS Activities</b> R-6701, W-237, PACNW OPAREA	Scan Eagle, Global Hawk (future BAMS)	2 / 3				12	112	0.0	112	0.0

\* NEW – "net explosive weight"

<sup>1</sup> Proposed range enhancements, including surface target services, would result in increased air-to-air missile exercises, surface-to-air gunnery, surface-to-air missile exercises, and surface-to-surface gunnery exercises in the NWTRC.

<sup>2</sup> Aircraft activities. Under the No Action Alternative, a total of 7,568 sorties (flights) would be flown by fixed-wing aircraft (98 percent), helicopters (one percent), and unmanned aerial vehicles (one percent). Although Alternatives 1 and 2 include potential increases in the number of certain individual training activities while aircraft are airborne, these additional activities alone do not correspond to an increase in either aircraft flights or flight hours. The relative proportion among the aircraft types remains largely the same across the alternatives. Existing Navy directives manage the storage, use, and proper disposal of materials that may be harmful to the environment.

<sup>3</sup> Naval vessel activities. Under the No Action Alternative, naval vessels would be underway and conducting exercises for 6,940 hours each year. Although Alternatives 1 and 2 include potential increases in the number of certain individual training activities while ships are at sea, these additional activities alone do not correspond to an increase in at-sea time for the ships. Vessels, aircraft, and other military equipment used in these activities carry and use hazardous materials for routine operation and maintenance. Existing Navy directives manage the storage, use, and proper disposal of materials that may be harmful to the environments. Please see the discussion of current requirements and practices below, as well as Table 3.4-1, Water Resources, for summary of water discharge restrictions for Navy vessels.



One study by Hoffsomer et al. (1972) analyzed seawater and ocean floor sediments and fauna at known ocean dumping sites for military ordnance. The sites were located 85 miles west of Cape Flattery, Washington, and 12 miles south-southeast of Charleston, South Carolina. Using a gas chromatograph, samples were tested for the explosives TNT (trinitrotoluene), RDX (Royal Demolition Explosive, cyclotrimethylene trinitramine), tetryl (nitramine), and the explosive oxidizing agent ammonium perchlorate. None of these materials were detected in any of the samples.

Navy vessels in the NWTRC Study Area represent a small fraction of the total watercraft and aircraft traffic entering and leaving Washington, Oregon, and northern California. Hazardous materials are present on all ocean-going vessels as cargoes, fuel, lubricants, and cleaning and maintenance materials, and as weapons and training materials on military vessels and aircraft.

### **3.3.1.1 Hazardous Materials**

Table 3.3-1 provides the types and amounts of training items under each alternative that may present issues related to hazardous materials. These materials can be broadly categorized as heavy metals, chemicals, and explosives.

#### **3.3.1.1.1 Heavy Metals**

Some metals are necessary for biological organisms to function properly, such as iron, zinc, copper, and manganese in humans. Heavy metals commonly noted for concern include lead, cadmium, mercury, tungsten, and chromium, but zinc, copper, and manganese may also be noted when exposure levels are too high. In the Study Area, heavy metals are present in vessels, manned and unmanned aircraft, bombs, shells, missiles, sonobuoys, batteries, electronic components, and as anti-corrosion compounds coating exterior metal surfaces. Most of these materials are inert, dense, and will settle to the bottom where they will lodge in deep sediments, eventually be covered by sediment, encrusted by chemical processes (e.g., rust), or covered by marine organisms (e.g., coral). The close-in weapons system (CIWS) uses 20 mm cannon shells composed of tungsten alloy. Two similar alloys are used in these 20 mm rounds – 89 percent tungsten, 8 percent nickel, 3 percent iron and 90 percent tungsten, 9 percent nickel and 1 percent cobalt. Chaff is a thin plastic polymer with an aluminum coating used to decoy enemy radar.

#### **3.3.1.1.2 Chemicals**

Hazardous chemicals include fuels and other propellants, and combustion byproducts of those fuels and propellants. These materials are present or may become present from the use of aircraft, vessels, and self-propelled machines such as torpedoes, high speed maneuverable surface targets (HSMSTs), expendable mobile anti-submarine warfare training target (EMATTs), and unmanned aerial vehicles. The batteries within these machines may also contain hazardous chemicals, as do smoke canisters and other markers. Toxic components of fuel oils include aromatic hydrocarbons such as benzene, toluene, xylene, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) such as naphthalene, acenaphthene, and fluoranthene. Examples of shipboard materials necessary for normal activities and maintenance include lubricants and hydraulic fluids, paint, solvents, corrosion inhibitors, adhesives, coolants, and cleaning compounds. Like commercial and recreational watercraft, boat engines discharge petroleum products in their wet exhaust.

#### **3.3.1.1.3 Explosives**

Explosives are contained in live bombs, missiles, torpedoes, and sonobuoys, and are used in explosives training. Constituents of concern in explosives include nitroaromatics (e.g., TNT) and cyclonitramines, including RDX (Royal Demolition Explosive, cyclotrimethylene trinitramine) and HMX (High Melting Explosive, cyclotetramethylene tetranitramine) that are mixed with plastics or other polymer binders (Janes 2005, 2006). PETN (pentaerythritol tetranitrate) is used in blasting caps, detonation cord, and similar initiators of detonations. Under normal use, 99.997 percent of the explosive is converted to

inorganic compounds (Table 3.3-2; United States Army Corps of Engineers [USACE] 2003, Renner and Short 1980).

However, these explosives become a concern when the ordnance does not function correctly, that is, when they do not detonate or do not detonate completely (low-order detonation). In these cases, all or a portion of the explosive remain. Table 3.3-3 provides information on the failure and low-order detonation rates for various ordnance (Rand 2005, USACE 2007). These materials can release small amounts of hazardous materials into the water or soil as they degrade and decompose. Table 3.3-4 provides a list of these materials (Department of the Navy [DoN] 2008c).

**Table 3.3-2: Chemical Byproducts of Underwater Detonations**

Detonation Byproduct	Percent by Weight by Explosive Compound		
	TNT	RDX	Composition B*
nitrogen	18.2	37.0	29.3
carbon dioxide	27.0	24.9	34.3
water	5.0	16.4	8.4
carbon monoxide	31.3	18.4	17.5
carbon (elemental)	10.6	0	2.3
ethane	5.2	1.6	5.4
hydrogen	0.2	0.3	0.1
propane	1.6	0.2	1.8
ammonia	0.3	0.9	0.6
methane	0.2	0.2	0.2
hydrogen cyanide	<0.0	<0.0	<0.0
methyl alcohol	<0.0	<0.0	0
formaldehyde	<0.0	<0.0	<0.0
other compounds	<0.0	<0.0	<0.0

\* 59.5% RDX, 39.5% TNT, 1% wax.

**Table 3.3-3: Failure and Low-Order Detonation Rates of Military Ordnance**

Ordnance	Failure Rate (Percent)	Low-Order Detonation Rate (Percent)
Guns/artillery	4.68	0.16
Hand grenades	1.78	—
High explosive ordnance	3.37	0.09
Rockets	3.84	—
Submunitions	8.23	—

These materials can release small amounts of hazardous materials into the water as they decompose. However, the hazardous constituents decompose slowly, so existing ocean and tidal currents would dissipate these materials to undetectable levels.

**Table 3.3-4: Hazardous Material Components of Training Materials**

<b>Training Application, Ordnance Element</b>	<b>Hazardous Material Component</b>
Pyrotechnics Tracers Spotting Charges	Barium chromate Potassium perchlorate Chlorides Phosphorus Titanium compounds
Oxidizers	Lead oxide
Delay Elements	Barium chromate Potassium perchlorate Lead chromate
Propellants	Ammonium perchlorate
Fuses	Potassium perchlorate
Detonators	Fulminate of mercury Potassium perchlorate
Primers	Lead azide

#### 3.3.1.1.4 Fate of Hazardous Materials

Three things generally happen to materials that come to rest on the ocean floor: 1) they lodge in sediments where there is little or no oxygen (below four inches [10 cm]); 2) they remain on the ocean floor and begin to react with seawater; or 3) they remain on the ocean floor and become encrusted by marine organisms. Rates of deterioration depend on the material and conditions in the immediate marine and benthic environment. Buried deep in ocean sediments, materials tend to decompose at much lower rates than when exposed to seawater (Ankley 1996). With the exception of torpedo guide wires and sonobuoy parts, sediment burial appears to be the fate of most ordnance used in marine warfare (CFMETR 2005).

Metals. The ocean and nearshore environment are complex and dynamic systems composed of physical, chemical, and biological components that continually influence each other. This complexity can make it difficult to accurately identify the source of a particular material or to predict the ultimate fate or impact of specific materials expended during training.

When exposed to seawater, metals begin to corrode. This process creates a layer of corroded material around the object. This removes the material from direct exposure to the corrosiveness of seawater, a process that further slows movement of the metals into the adjacent sediments and water column. This is particularly true of aluminum. In a similar fashion, as materials become covered by marine creatures, the direct exposure of the material to seawater decreases and the rate of corrosion decreases. Dispersal of these materials in the water column is controlled by physical mixing and diffusion, both of which tend to vary with time and location. A recent study of similar Canadian military activities in the Strait of Georgia found few chemical or biological impacts as a result of military expended material released during training (CFMETR 2005).

Concerning the current level of military expended material on the ocean floor, the Northwest Fisheries Science Center (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration [NOAA]) conducted a survey of materials generically referred to as “marine debris” by NOAA off the West Coast of the United States during 2007 and 2008 (Fruh et al. 2008). NOAA categorized these materials as plastic, metal, fabric, glass, rubber, Styrofoam, and aggregate (e.g., bags of waste or items that involved several categories of

debris). Debris was further categorized as military and fishing debris. Of 469 tows (Figure 3.3-1) in which marine debris was recovered, none of the debris off of Washington, Oregon, or Northern California contained military expended material. Other factors that influence the fate of metals in marine systems are discussed below.

- **Sources of contamination.** Many contaminants are carried into marine systems by the wind and rivers. For instance, the water quality of rivers and streams in the Puget Sound area have problems with fecal bacteria, excess nutrients, insecticides, and other organic chemicals (USGS 2000). Approximately 80 percent of the mercury released from human activities comes from burning of coal, mining and smelting, and solid waste incineration (Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry [ATSDR] 1999). Once in place, natural physical, chemical, and biological processes can re-suspend, transport, and re-deposit materials to areas far removed from the original source (Hameedi et al. 2002).
- **Differences among metals.** All metals do not act the same in marine environments. Following Li (1991), Nozaki (2009) groups the behavior of metals into the following types: conservative, nutrient, scavenged, and redox-controlled. *Conservative elements* are present in seawater at relatively high levels in constant proportion to salinity and are uniformly distributed in the water column (e.g., magnesium, molybdenum, and tungsten). *Nutrient elements* are depleted in surface waters by biological uptake and enriched at depth by regeneration from pelagic rain (e.g., nitrogen, phosphorus, and zinc). *Scavenged elements* are generally highly reactive in seawater, adsorb to or react with various elements in the water, and are removed from solution (e.g., aluminum, manganese, and lead). *Redox-controlled elements* exist in more than one oxidation state, that is, with a variable number of electrons (e.g., chromium, arsenic, and selenium). Their behavior and distribution is variable based on conditions in the water. Further complicating this situation is that some elements fall into more than one of these categories. For example, copper can be both nutrient and scavenged types and selenium can be nutrient and redox-controlled types.
- **Location.** The distribution and concentration of various substances, including metals, often changes by location. Vertically, some metals have low concentration in surface waters and higher concentrations at depth (e.g., Cd; Bruland 1992), while others decline quickly below the surface (e.g., zinc, iron; Morel and Price 2003, Nozaki 2009). By virtue of the downward movement of detritus from surface areas, many materials that are otherwise scarce in the water column are concentrated in bottom sediments. Horizontally, the concentration of various materials decreases with distance from shore. This is a consequence of distance from main sources, settling of materials once discharged from pipes or rivers, and natural processes such as those that occur in estuaries that retain and transform those materials (Li et al. 2008). The location of various materials may also be a consequence of longshore currents, such as the movement of radionuclides northward from the Columbia River (Duursma and Gross 1971). Bioturbation is more common in nearshore areas than in the deep ocean, and marine organisms may also “influence the seasonal, horizontal, and vertical distributions of radionuclides and stable elements” (Lowman et al. 1971). Location on the ocean floor also influences the distribution and concentration of various elements through local geology and volcanic activity (Demina et al., 2009).

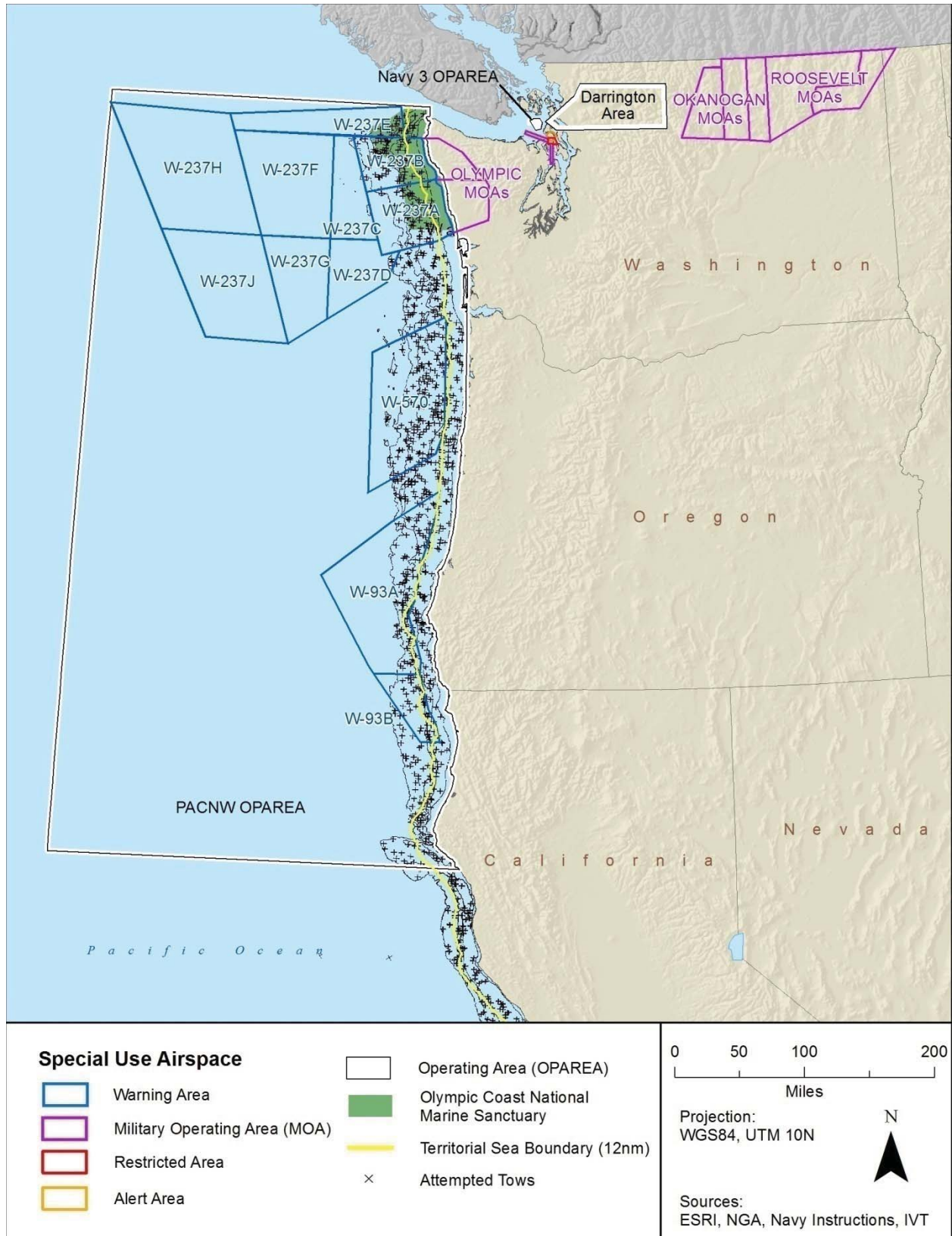


Figure 3.3-1: 2007-2008 Marine Debris Survey Tow Locations



- **Sediment conditions.** Conditions in deep-sea sediments, such as low- or no-oxygen and low oxidation-reduction (“redox”) state, can lead to various contaminants becoming immobilized or re-mobilized. Certain materials combine in oxygen-rich environments and become less available for other chemical or biological reactions. If these combined substances settle into the low or no-oxygen sediment zone, the change may liberate those materials and release them into the sediment pore water. Conversely, materials that remain in solution in oxygenated environments may complex with organic or inorganic materials in low or no-oxygen environments and become removed from further circulation unless exposed to oxygen (e.g., bioturbation) (Salomons and Forstner 1984, Spencer and MacLeod 2002; Wang et al. 2002; Duursma and Gross 1971). The metabolic processes of sediment bacteria may also increase the toxicity of materials (Mitchell and Gilmour 2008).
- **Properties of seawater.** The properties of seawater such as temperature, salinity, pH, level of dissolved oxygen, and hardness, affect the mobility and the toxicity of various contaminants. The presence of other substances in seawater, such as extremely small organic particles (< 0.63 µm), carbonates, sulphides, phosphates, and other metals, affect the mobility and the toxicity of various contaminants (Chapman et al. 2003; Kszos et al. 2003). More detail regarding the properties of marine waters in the PACNW OPAREA is provided in Section 3.4, Water Resources.
- **Measurement.** Given that many of the conditions discussed above influence each other, measuring and characterizing various materials in the marine environment is often difficult (Byrne 1995; Ho et al. 2007). The Navy does not currently have site-specific information on water or sediment quality within the W-237 ranges or other locations in the offshore PACNW OPAREA.

#### 3.3.1.1.5 Bioavailability, Trophic Transfer, and Bioaccumulation

The conditions noted above complicate predictions of the impact of various materials in the marine environment. They also complicate predictions of bioavailability, trophic transfer, and bioaccumulation.

- “Bioavailability” refers to the degree to which a substance is taken in by an organism with the potential for distribution, metabolism, and elimination.
- “Trophic transfer” is the movement up the food chain as predator eats prey.
- “Bioaccumulation” is the increase in the concentration of a substance in an organism from a lower trophic to a higher trophic level (McGeer et al. 2004).

Additional complexity arises from the behavior of marine organisms and their response to such materials.

Different organisms have different sensitivities to various contaminants, and species can develop tolerances to some contaminants (Kszos et al. 2003). Different organisms in the same environment often have different feeding strategies and digestive systems that enhance or limit the impact of specific substances (Lowman et al. 1971, Reinfelder and Fisher 1994). Many species are able to sequester or rid themselves of some contaminants, such as through metallothionein and heat-sensitive proteins and the formation of metal-rich granules (Wallace and Luoma 2003; Wallace et al. 2003). Also, different tissues of different species accumulate materials to varying degrees (e.g., muscle vs. carapace; Reinfelder and Fisher 1994). Some materials, such as petroleum products, can be metabolized by marine microorganisms (Leahy and Colwell 1990). Lowman et al. (1971) also indicated that “biological concentrations factors for non-conservative elements are generally greater than those for major, or conservative, elements.” What an organism feeds on can influence the amount of metals accumulated (Qiu et al. 2001; Cheung and Wang 2005). Also, the portion of the prey that a predator metabolizes will influence the degree to which metals are incorporated into the next trophic level. For instance, although the shell of an animal may preferentially store cadmium and cobalt, that portion is packaged and passed out of the digestive system with limited assimilation of either metal by the predator, and metals associated with prey

proteins are assimilated to greater degree than those associated with metal-rich granules (Reinfelder and Fisher 1994, Wallace and Lopez 1997). Conversely, bioaccumulation of metals was demonstrated in an intertidal food chain (Blackmore and Wang 2004). As temperature and salinity can influence the form of substances in marine systems, they can also influence the degree of bioaccumulation (Lee and Lee 2005). The route of entry into the organism (e.g., gills versus ingestion) and duration and frequency of exposure influence bioaccumulation (McGeer et al. 2004). Last, the number of species and food chains that have been studied are limited (Lowman et al. 1971, Cheung and Wang 2005).

#### 3.3.1.1.6 Prior Use of Depleted Uranium in NWTRC

The Navy has conducted training activities in the PACNW OPAREA for several decades, the majority of which have occurred in W-237. This training has included rounds of depleted uranium (DU) used in close-in weapons systems (CIWS). No site-specific records are available to identify the areas in which such rounds were expended, but areas of accumulation likely exist beyond 12 nm from shore in the deep waters of W-237.

Uranium is a naturally occurring, slightly radioactive heavy metal found in all soils, rocks, and fresh and salt water (United Nations Environment Programme [UNEP] 2001, World Health Organization (WHO) 2001; see Table 3.4-1). Natural uranium consists of a mixture of three radioactive isotopes –  $^{238}\text{U}$  (99.27 percent by mass),  $^{235}\text{U}$  (0.72 percent) and  $^{234}\text{U}$  (0.0054 percent). Depleted uranium is a by-product of the  $^{238}\text{U}$  enrichment process. Typically, DU contains about 99.8 percent  $^{238}\text{U}$ , 0.2 percent  $^{235}\text{U}$  and 0.0006 percent  $^{234}\text{U}$ , by mass. For the same mass, depleted uranium has about 60 percent of the radioactivity of uranium (WHO 2001). DU made from nuclear reactor fuel may also contain  $^{236}\text{U}$  plus small amounts of plutonium, americium, neptunium, and technetium-99, resulting in a minor increase in radiation (< one percent; UNEP 2001). “The main source of radionuclides in the marine environment is fallout from nuclear tests performed in the atmosphere,” although discharges from reprocessing facilities and ocean dumping of radioactive wastes may influence local levels (International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] 2005b).

According to UNEP (2001), “...there is a lack of information on the nature and effects of DU, as well as the associated risks.” Much of the information available on DU concerns the impact of inhalation of DU dust, ingestion of material contaminated by DU, and handling DU materials (Harley et al. 1999; UNEP 2001). However, Harley et al. (1999) indicate that “a wide body of literature deals with the health effects of natural and enriched uranium” and that “the toxicological effects of natural uranium are identical to those of DU,” while DU’s radiological effects are less pronounced. According to WHO (2001), more than 95 percent of “uranium entering the body is not absorbed, but is eliminated through defecation, while uranium that is absorbed into the blood, approximately 67 percent will be filtered by the kidney and excreted in the urine in 24 hours. Typically between 0.2 and 2 percent of the uranium in food and water is absorbed by the gastrointestinal tract.” Additionally, Hanson (1974) found that “DU released to aquatic environments is expected to have a minor impact because of low solubility and because of the appreciable amount of natural uranium normally transported by rivers from the continental landscape.”

According to Harley et al. (1999), uranium, including DU, “is a heavy metal similar to tungsten, lead, and cadmium and that the metal’s toxicity poses a more serious health risk than its radiation.” The authors note that, like other metals, uranium is highly reactive and exhibits “great affinity for biological molecules” and reacts with a variety of other compounds (e.g., phosphates, carbonates). However, the World Health Organization notes that uranium compounds “differ substantially in their chemical and physiological properties and in the toxicological effects they exert” (WHO 2001). Soluble radionuclides have a fate similar to that of other metals in marine sediments in that they form relatively stable complexes with organic and inorganic materials (Duursma and Gross 1971) and, once sorbed, “generally do not react with other ligands in biological systems” (Harley et al. 1999). Similar to other

metals, the “uptake and transfer of radionuclides in food chains is influenced by a wide range of environmental factors that vary substantially between different ecosystems” (Kumblad 2004).

Toqué (2006) studied the effects of approximately 31 tons of DU deposited from test firing at the Kirkcudbright military training area in the United Kingdom between 1982 and 2003. The study found no significant increase in uranium in intertidal sediment, underwater sediment, intertidal seaweed, or biota (mussels, lobsters, and scallops). Based on the evaluation of potential exposure pathways, the Toqué study (2006) determined that there is “no evidence of DU being present in any marine environmental sample” and “no evidence to suggest that members of the public are subjected to any radiation hazard from the marine environment due to the firing of DU at Kirkcudbright.”

A variety of organisms are known to accumulate radionuclides by several physical, chemical, and biochemical processes. “The degree to which radionuclides are incorporated into food webs also depends upon the availability of the corresponding element and metabolically similar elements and the physiological and behavioral characteristics of the organisms in food webs and chains (Lowman et al. 1971). Recent data suggest that metals such as mercury, cadmium, selenium, and polonium that bind to proteins are likeliest to display biomagnification, but no systematic assessment has yet been performed to evaluate biomagnification among different kinds of metals in marine food chains (IAEA 2005a).

Depleted uranium use is no longer part of the no action or the action alternatives for this EIS/OEIS. None of the surface combatant ships stationed in the Pacific Northwest, which are the ships that conduct the preponderance of training at sea in the Pacific Northwest, have DU onboard.

Explosives. Military-grade explosives have low water solubility, meaning that they do not readily dissolve in water and are, therefore, relatively immobile in water (Table 3.3-5). TNT degrades to a wide variety of products depending on whether the process is physical (e.g., photolysis) or biological (e.g., fungal and bacterial transformation) (ATSDR 1993). RDX dissolves slowly in water (see Table 3.3-5) and does not readily adsorb to soils or organic matter. RDX does not accumulate in people or fish and begins to decompose in water after several hours. Physical processes of RDX degradation include hydrolysis and photolysis. However, hydrolysis accounts for less than 12 percent of RDX degradation after 112 days. The half-life of RDX exposed to sunlight is 9-13 hours (ATSDR 1995). Microbial degradation of RDX occurs under aerobic and anaerobic conditions. End products include hydrazines, methanol, and methane (ATSDR 1995, Brannon and Pennington 2002).

The degradation and dissolution of these materials may be further slowed by the physical structure and composition of blended explosives, which contain multiple chemical compounds, as well as binding agents such as estane and Kel-F 800 (Burgess et al. 1998). Because binding agents slow the degradation process, they also cause plastic explosives to persist in the environment.

Based on the preceding discussion and the location of military activities under the various alternatives, the following habitats may be impacted by hazardous materials: 1) open ocean habitat – surface and subsurface (pelagic) areas; 2) open ocean habitat – bottom dwelling (benthic) communities; and 3) nearshore habitat, including bottom-dwelling algae (e.g., kelp forests) and seagrass beds. Specific impacts to specific resources are detailed in sections 3.1 (Geology and Soils), 3.4 (Water Resources), and 3.6 (Marine Invertebrates and Plants).



**Table 3.3-5: Water Solubility of Common Explosives and Degradation Products**

Compound	Water Solubility*
salt (sodium chloride) [for comparison]	357,000
ammonium perchlorate	249,000
picric acid	12,820
nitrobenzene	1,900
dinitrobenzene	500
trinitrobenzene	335
dinitrotoluene (DNT)	160-161
trinitrotoluene (TNT)	130
tetryl	51
pentaerythritoltetranitrate (PETN)	43
RDX	38
HMX	7
* Units are milligrams per liter (mg/L) at 20°C	

Source: DoN 2008c

### 3.3.1.2 Current Requirements and Practices

Discharges of hazardous materials are regulated by a variety of federal and state programs that are explained in more detail below. In addition, the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL 73/78) prohibits certain discharges of oil, garbage, and other substances from vessels. The MARPOL convention is implemented by national legislation, including the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships (33 USC 1901, et seq.) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (“Clean Water Act”; 33 USC 1321, et seq.). These and other requirements are implemented by the *Navy Environmental and Natural Resources Program Manual* (OPNAVINST 5090.1C, 2007) and related Navy guidance documents that require hazardous materials to be stored and handled appropriately, both on shore and afloat.

At sea, Navy vessels are required to operate in a manner that minimizes or eliminates any adverse impacts to the marine environment. Environmental compliance policies and procedures applicable to shipboard activities afloat are defined in the *Navy Environmental and Natural Resources Program Manual* (OPNAVINST 5090.1C, 2007), Chapter 4, “Pollution Prevention,” and Chapter 22, “Environmental Compliance Afloat.” In addition, provisions in Executive Order (EO) 12856, *Federal Compliance With Right-To-Know Laws and Pollution Prevention Requirements*, and EO 13101, *Greening the Government through Waste Prevention, Recycling, and Federal Acquisition*, reinforce Clean Water Act prohibition against discharge of harmful quantities of hazardous substances into U.S. waters out to 200 nm (371 km), and mandate stringent hazardous waste discharge, storage, dumping, and pollution prevention requirements. Table 3.4-1 in the Water Resources section provides information on Navy current requirements and practices for shipboard management, storage, and discharge of hazardous materials and wastes, and on other pollution protection measures intended to protect water quality. Onshore policies and procedures related to spills of oil and hazardous materials are detailed in OPNAVINST 5090.1 series, Chapter 12. These are discussed in more detail in Chapter 5.

The Navy has also implemented hazardous materials management programs to ensure compliance and to provide guidance on handling and disposing of such materials. Navy instructions include stringent discharge, storage, and pollution prevention measures and require facility managers to reduce, to the

extent possible, quantities of toxic substances released into the environment. All Navy vessels and facilities have comprehensive programs in place that implement responsible stewardship, hazardous materials management and minimization, pollution prevention, recycling, and spill prevention and response. These and other programs allow Navy ships to retain used and excess hazardous material on board for shore offload within five working days of arrival at a Navy port. All activities can return excess and unused hazardous materials to the Navy's Hazardous Material Minimization Centers (Table 3.3-6). Additional information regarding water discharge restrictions for Navy vessels is provided in Table 3.4-1, Water Resources.

The Navy has recently implemented the Water Range Sustainability Environmental Program Assessment (WRSEPA) Policy (29 August 2008) to ensure the long-term viability of Navy operational ranges while protecting human health and the environment (Chief of Naval Operations 2008). The impact of the constituents from training materials expended in the marine environment will be a focus of the WRSEPA Policy. Protective measures will be considered and implemented as required to sustain range operations, maintain environmental compliance, and address unacceptable risks associated with munitions constituents and military expended materials constituents. Protective measures are actions or best management practices designed and implemented to abate, prevent, minimize, stabilize, or eliminate the release or the threat of release of munitions constituents and military expended materials and risks to human health or the environment

### **3.3.2 Environmental Consequences**

#### **3.3.2.1 Approach to Analysis**

##### **3.3.2.1.1 Regulatory Framework**

Hazardous materials are regulated by several federal laws and regulations, including the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), the Toxic Substances Control Act, the Hazardous Materials Transport Act, the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act, and the Oil Pollution Act. Together, these laws and the accompanying regulations govern the storage, use, and transportation of hazardous materials from their origin to their disposal, including recovery and cleanup of environmental contamination.

#### Federal Laws and Regulations

##### *Resource Conservation and Recovery Act*

RCRA defines a hazardous waste at 42 U.S.C. § 6903(5) as a solid waste, or combination of solid wastes, which because of its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical, or infectious characteristics may cause or significantly contribute to an increase in mortality or serious irreversible illness, or pose a substantial present or potential threat to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, disposed of, or otherwise managed.

Military ordnance includes confined gaseous, liquid, and solid propellants, explosives, pyrotechnics, chemical and riot agents, and smoke canisters. The military munitions rule (40 CFR 260, et seq.) directs that conventional and chemical military ordnance are not considered hazardous materials according to RCRA under two conditions:

- 1) when they are used for their intended purpose, including training of military personnel and explosive emergency response specialists, research and development activities, and when recovered, collected, and destroyed during range clearance events; and
- 2) when they are unused and being repaired, reused, recycled, reclaimed, disassembled, reconfigured, or subjected to other material recovery activities.

Table 3.3-6: Selected Hazardous Materials Discharge Restrictions for Navy Vessels

Hazardous Material	Materials, Contaminants (Lists of examples are not exhaustive)	U.S. Waters (0-12 nm)	Beyond 12 nm
Spent acid, alkali	<u>Acids</u> – acetic, sulfuric, and hydrochloric <u>Alkalis</u> – potassium hydroxide, sodium hydroxide	No discharge	Carefully neutralize, dilute and flush overboard using large amounts of water
Batteries	Lead, antimony, nickel, silver, zinc, cadmium, potassium hydroxide electrolyte, manganese dioxide, mercuric oxide, zinc, lithium, acetonitrile.		Containerize for shore disposal.
Hydraulic Fluids (petrol-based and synthetic)	MIL-L-17331, MIL-F-17111, MIL-H-19457 (contains tertiary butylated triphenyl phosphate), MIL-H-22072 (contains ethylene glycol, polyoxypropylene glycol)		Hold for shore disposal.
Insecticides, Pesticides	Diazinon, Baygon, Dyrethrin, Resmethrin, Dursban, Malathion.		Containerize for shore disposal.
Waste oil, sludge, oily solid waste, grease	Mineral, silicone, and paraffin-based oils; chlorinated and sulfurized mineral oils		Containerize for shore disposal.
Propellants	OTTO Fuel II, substituted hydrazine		Containerize for shore disposal.
Polychlorinated biphenyls	PCB		Containerize for shore disposal.
Fluorescent Bulbs	Mercury		Hold for shore disposal.
Paint, Painting Materials	Paint, paint-contaminated solvents, strippers, clean-up materials		Containerize for shore disposal.
Solvents	Perchloroethylene, trichloromethane, Freon, ethyl acetate, acetone, toluene, kerosene, petroleum naphtha, petroleum distillates		Containerize for shore disposal.
Solvents	Ethylene and propylene glycols, ethyl, isopropyl and butyl alcohols		Overboard discharge permitted
Water with Corrosion Inhibitors	Sodium metaborate, potassium silicate, mercapto-benzothiazole (MIL-A-53009); diammonium citrate, DETU, MIL-D-16791 detergent; Nalcool 2000, Nalfleet 9-11; Paxcool, Catcool		Overboard discharge permitted
Aircraft Washdown Wastewater	Glycols, triethanolamine, naphtha, 2-butoxyethanol, cadmium, chromium.		Overboard discharge permitted
Submarine Missile Tube Wastewater	Heavy metals, cyanide		Overboard discharge permitted

Source: OPNAVINST 5090.1C (October 30, 2007), pp22-13; Appendix L.

These two conditions cover most uses of missiles, ordnance, and targets in the Study Area. Under the rule, wholly inert items and non-ordnance training materials are not considered military ordnance. Military ordnance become subject to RCRA when: 1) transported off-range for storage, reclamation, treatment, disposal; 2) they are buried or placed in a land filled on- or off-range; or 3) they land off-range and are not immediately rendered safe or retrieved.

#### *Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act*

CERCLA – the Superfund program – defines hazardous substance as any material that, due to its quantity, concentration, or physical and chemical characteristics, poses a potential hazard to human health and safety or to the environment (42 USC §9602). CERCLA has established national policies and procedures to identify and clean up sites contaminated by hazardous substances. CERCLA provisions apply to closed military installations, but not active military ranges.

#### *Toxic Substances Control Act*

The Toxic Substances Control Act requires that a facility must file with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) a pre-manufacture notice that characterizes the toxicity of a substance prior to its manufacture (15 USC 2601, et seq.).

#### *Hazardous Materials Transportation Law*

For air, sea, or land transportation, the U.S. Department of Transportation defines a hazardous material as a substance or material that is capable of posing an unreasonable risk to health, safety, and property when transported in commerce (49 USC 5101, et seq.; 49 CFR 171.8, Appendix B).

#### *Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act*

The Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act requires federal, state, and local governments and industry to report their use of hazardous and toxic chemicals (42 USC 116, et seq.).

#### *Oil Pollution Act*

The Oil Pollution Act requires oil storage facilities and vessels to submit plans to the federal government describing how they will respond to the unplanned release of oil and other hazardous materials (33 USC 2701, et seq.). Oil and hazardous releases are also reported and remediated according to current Navy policies.

#### State Laws and Regulations

The Navy complies with applicable state regulations under Executive Order 12088, *Federal Compliance with Pollution Control Standards*; Department of Defense Directive 4165.60, *Solid Waste Management*; and Navy guidelines for hazardous materials and wastes management.

#### *Washington*

The Washington State Department of Ecology regulates the disposal of solid waste (Revised Code of Washington [RCW] Chapter 36.58), hazardous wastes (RCW Chapter 70.105), and radioactive waste (RCW Chapter 70.98). The state has also adopted the military munitions rule, except for certain transportation exemptions and the management of closed ranges (Washington Administrative Code 173-303). NBK-Bangor is one of 29 entities in Washington authorized to treat, store, dispose, or recycle hazardous materials or to process used oil. NBK-Bangor processes used oil and oily materials; performs heat, chemical, and mechanical processing in tank systems; and is a hazardous waste broker. The base only accepts used oil from Navy vessels and facilities.

### *Oregon*

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality is authorized by the USEPA to regulate hazardous materials. Oregon has adopted the military munitions rule, except for the chemical ordnance provisions (Oregon Administrative Rules [OAR] 340-100-0002[1]). A facility that generates or processes hazardous materials must be certified, notify the department of its activities, and follow all applicable regulations. These requirements are imposed under RCRA and several federal and state regulations (40 CFR Parts 124, 260-266, 268, 270, 273, and 279; and OAR 340-100 through 109, 111, 113, 124, and 142).

### *California*

California state laws and regulations generally implement federal requirements, but broaden their application or impose additional regulatory requirements in some areas (Table 3.3-7). The California Environmental Protection Agency (CEPA) has general authority over hazardous materials, although much of this responsibility is delegated to local governments under the Certified Unified Program Agency program. In the NWTRC Study Area, this is generally county governments in northern California. Within CEPA, the Department of Toxic Substances Control is responsible for the use, storage, transport, and disposal of hazardous materials.

**Table 3.3-7: State of California Laws Related to Hazardous Materials**

Law	Description
Hazardous Materials Release Response Plans and Inventory Act	Requires facilities using hazardous materials to prepare hazardous materials plans
Hazardous Waste Control Act	Regulates the generation, transportation, storage, treatment, and disposal of hazardous materials
Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act	Regulates the discharge of contaminants to ground water
Emergency Services Act	Similar to the Federal Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act

#### **3.3.2.1.2 Study Area**

The Study Area for the analysis of hazardous materials is the Northwest Training Range Complex (NWTRC), specifically W-237, nearshore areas such as underwater detonation areas in Puget Sound, and on-land training areas. Because the range complex primarily supports training for locally-based ships, submarines, aircraft and personnel, most of the activities occur in W-237 due to its proximity to these forces. Greater detail regarding these areas is provided in Section 2.1.

#### **3.3.2.1.3 Sources of Information**

A systematic review of relevant literature was conducted to complete this analysis of hazardous materials in the Study Area, including journals, technical reports published by government agencies, work conducted by private businesses and consulting firms, and Department of Defense reports, operational manuals, natural resource management plans, and current and prior environmental documents for facilities and activities in the NWTRC Study Area. The literature and other information sources cited are identified in Chapter 9, References.

#### **3.3.2.1.4 Methods**

For each alternative, this document characterizes and quantifies the items and activities that may contribute hazardous materials to various areas within the Study Area, and analyzes those items and activities in terms of the federal and state laws intended to protect public health and the environment. An

adverse impact would result if the use of hazardous materials results in a violation of any of the laws cited above. Stressors and potential effects of hazardous materials in the NWTRC are summarized in Table 3.3-8.

**Table 3.3-8: Warfare Areas, Stressors, and Potential Effects of Hazardous Materials**

Activity and Training Areas	Environmental Stressors	Potential Impacts of Hazardous Materials
Air combat maneuvers (ACM) – Okanogan, Olympic, and Roosevelt MOAs; other warning areas	Aircraft noise, visual intrusion	Water quality, sediments – corrosion of chaff (aluminum and fiberglass fibers)
Air-to-Air Missile Exercise (AMEX) – W-237 beyond 12 nm	Detonations and physical impacts, expended materials, aircraft noise, visual intrusion, vessel movement	Water quality, sediments – solid propellants (missiles), explosives and related materials (munitions, warheads, pyrotechnics), detonation byproducts, subsequent chemical reactions; corrosion of a variety of metals
Surface-to-Air Gunnery Exercise (SA GUNEX) – W-237 beyond 12 nm, PACNW OPAREA	Same as above	Same as above
Surface-to-Air Missile Exercise (SAMEX) – W-237, PACNW OPAREA	Same as above	Same as above
Surface-to-Surface Gunnery Exercise (SS GUNEX) – W-237, PACNW OPAREA	Same as above	Same as above
Air-to-Surface Bombing Exercise (AS BOMBEX) – W-237, PACNW OPAREA	Same as above	Same as above
Sinking Exercise (SINKEX) – W-237, PACNW OPAREA beyond 50 nm	Same as above	Same as above
Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) TRACKEX (MPA) – W-237, PACNW OPAREA	Expended materials (sonobuoys), aircraft noise, visual intrusion, vessel movement	Same as above
ASW TRACKEX (EER/IEER) – W-237, PACNW OPAREA beyond 50 nm	Detonations and expended materials (sonobuoys), visual intrusion, vessel movement	Same as above
ASW TRACKEX (surface ships) – PACNW OPAREA beyond 50 nm	Visual intrusion, vessel movement	None
ASW TRACKEX (submarine) – PACNW OPAREA	Aircraft noise, visual intrusion, vessel movement	None
Electronic combat (EC) exercises – Darrington Area, W-237	Aircraft noise	None
EOD (mine countermeasures) – Crescent Harbor, Indian Island, and Floral Point	Detonations, expended materials, troop movement, and noise	Water quality, sediments – explosives and related materials, detonation byproducts, subsequent chemical reactions
Mine Warfare (MIW) – DTR Seaplane Base and DTR Bangor (land-based demolition)	Detonations, expended materials, troop movement, and noise	Some accumulation of detonated materials in surface soils within DTR
Insertion and Extraction – OLF Coupeville, Seaplane Base, and Crescent Harbor	Aircraft noise, troop movement	None
Naval Special Warfare (NSW) training (land-based SEAL exercise) – Indian Island	Troop movement	None
HARMEX (non-firing) – Okanogan, Olympic, and Roosevelt MOA	Aircraft noise, visual intrusion	None



**Table 3.3-8: Warfare Areas, Stressors, and Potential Effects of Hazardous Materials (continued)**

Activity and Training Areas	Environmental Stressors	Potential Impacts of Hazardous Materials
Intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance – W-237, PACNW OPAREA	Aircraft noise, visual intrusion	None
Unmanned aerial systems, RDT&E – W-237	Aircraft noise, visual intrusion	None
Range enhancements – portable underwater training range, small scale underwater training minefield	PUTR – vessel movement, sonar, bottom anchors; SSUTM – vessel movement, bottom anchors	None

### 3.3.2.2 No Action Alternative

Table 3.3-1 summarizes the types and amounts of training items and activities under each alternative that may present issues related to hazardous materials. The amounts and types of specific training materials under the No Action Alternative are analyzed below.

#### 3.3.2.2.1 Bombs

Typically, bombing exercises involve one or more aircraft bombing a target at sea that simulates a hostile surface vessel. Bomb bodies are made of steel with fins of steel or aluminum. The bombs used may be live (with explosives) or inert (as called “practice” or “bomb dummy units”). Zinc, lead, antimony, copper, manganese, and iron are found in shell casings and various projectile components. Lead is found in warhead primers in live bombs. All of these metals are found at some natural background levels in the environment. Inert bombs are comprised mainly of iron and steel casings filled with sand, concrete, or vermiculite, and configured to have the same weight, size, center of gravity, and ballistics as a live bomb (DoN 2006a).

Under the No Action Alternative, 108 bombs would be used, of which 88 are inert (81 percent) (Table 3.3.9). With an area in W-237 of approximately 33,997 square nautical miles ( $\text{nm}^2$ ) ( $116,610 \text{ km}^2$ ) and assuming even distribution of activities, this amounts to 0.003 item per  $\text{nm}^2$  (0.001 per  $\text{km}^2$ ).

**Table 3.3-9: Types and Number of Bombs Expended Annually – No Action Alternative**

Type of Bomb	Number
MK-82 – Live	12
BDU-45 – Inert	88
MK-83 – Live	4
MK-84 – Live	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>108</b>

Practice bombs entering the water do not contain combustion chemicals found in the warheads of live bombs. Unrecovered ordnance and fragments of detonated bombs settle to the sea floor that is over 200 feet (60 m) at the continental shelf and several thousand feet beyond the continental shelf. On the bottom, the bombs and fragments are exposed to seawater or lodge in sediments. Once settled, metal components slowly corrode in seawater. Over time, natural encrustation of exposed surfaces occurs and reduces the rate of corrosion. Elemental aluminum in seawater tends to be converted by hydrolysis to aluminum hydroxide, which is relatively insoluble, and scavenged by particulates and transported to the bottom sediments (Monterey Bay Area Research Institute [MBARI] 2008). Practice bombs are made of materials similar to those used to construct artificial reefs. The steel and iron, though durable, corrode over time,

with no noticeable environmental impacts. The concrete is also durable and offers a beneficial substrate for benthic organisms (DoN 2006b). Due to the large size of the W-237, expended ordnance on the ocean floor would be widely scattered and have negligible adverse impacts and possibly some slight benefits.

### 3.3.2.2.2 Missiles

Missiles are fired by aircraft and ships at a variety of airborne and surface targets. Missiles used in most aviation exercises are inert versions and do not explode on contact with the target or sea surface. Exploding warheads may be used in air-to-air missile exercises, but to avoid damaging aerial targets, the missile explodes in the air, disintegrates, and falls into the ocean. Live missiles used in air-to-surface exercises explode near the water surface (DoN 2006b).

Under the No Action Alternative, 10 missiles would be used, eight during air-to-air missile exercises (AAMEX) and vessel-sinking exercises (SINKEX), and two during high-speed anti-radiation missile exercises (HARMEX) (Table 3.3-10).

**Table 3.3-10: Types and Number of Missiles Expended Annually – No Action Alternative**

Type of Missile	Number
AIM-7 Sparrow	0
AIM-9 Sidewinder	0
AIM-120 AMRAAM	0
NATO Sea Sparrow	0
AGM-88 HARM	2
AGM-114 Hellfire	1
AGM-65 Maverick	3
AGM-84 Harpoon	3
SLAM ER	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>

About half of the missiles used for AAMEX and SINKEX have live warheads and the remainder are inert and do not explode on contact with the target. During AAMEX, the target is usually a TALD or LUU-2B/B illumination flare. During SINKEX, the target is a cleaned, decommissioned vessel. Launched missiles are not recovered. During HARMEX, a flight crew receives and identifies an electronic signal from simulated enemy radar. The aircrew positions itself for the optimum firing solution and simulates firing a HARM missile designed to destroy enemy radar. Only non-firing, “captive” HARM missiles are used.

In general, the single largest hazardous constituent of missiles is solid propellant, such as solid double-base propellant, aluminum and ammonia propellant grain, and arcite propellant grain. The solid propellant is primarily composed of rubber (polybutadiene) mixed with ammonium perchlorate. Hazardous constituents are also used in igniters, explosive bolts, batteries (e.g., potassium hydroxide and lithium chloride), and warheads (e.g., PBX-N high explosive [HE] components, PBXN-106 explosive, and PBX (AF)-108 explosive).

Solid propellant fragments would sink to the ocean floor and undergo changes in the presence of seawater. Testing has also demonstrated that water penetrates only 0.06 inch into the propellant during the first 24 hours of immersion, and that fragments will very slowly release ammonium and perchlorate ions



(DoN 2008c). These ions will be expected to be rapidly diluted and disperse in the surrounding water such that local concentrations will be extremely low. Section 3.4, Water Resources, discusses missile propellant in the marine environment in further detail.

Table 3.3-11 lists chemical materials associated with missile launches as well as exposure limits for those materials (U.S. Air Force [USAF] 1999). Chromium or cadmium may also be found in anticorrosion compounds coating exterior missile surfaces. A discussion of batteries in the marine environment is provided below.

**Table 3.3-11: Chemical Compounds Associated With Missile Launches**

Resource	Chemical Compound	Maximum Exposure (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Air	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> – alumina	0.021
	CO – carbon monoxide	39.11
	HCl – hydrochloric acid	0.012
	NO <sub>x</sub> – oxides of nitrogen	0.009
Water	Jet propulsion fuel, Type 8	0.023

Exploding warheads may be used in air-to-air missile exercises, but to avoid damaging the aerial target, the missile explodes in the air, disintegrates, and falls into the ocean. For these and inert missiles, the main environmental impact would be the physical components of the missile itself entering the water (DoN 2006a). However, the impact of these components is expected to be minimal. More detailed discussion is included in Section 3.4, Water Resources.

### 3.3.2.2.3 Naval Gunfire

Under the No Action Alternative, a total of 25,856 naval gunshells would be expended annually over an area in W-237 of approximately 33,997 nm<sup>2</sup> (116,610 km<sup>2</sup>) (Table 3.3-12). This amounts to 0.76 item per nm<sup>2</sup> (0.22 per km<sup>2</sup>), assuming an even distribution of activities.

**Table 3.3-12: Types and Number of Naval Gunshells Expended Annually – No Action Alternative**

Type of Gunshells	Number	Percent of Total
20mm – live (CIWS)	7,200	28
25mm – live	15,750	61
57mm – live	630	2
76mm – live	560	2
5 inch – live	1,716	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,856</b>	

This ordnance is composed of steel, brass, copper, tungsten, and other metals. The 20-mm cannon shells used in close-in weapons system (CIWS) are composed mostly of tungsten alloy. Live 5-inch shells are typically fused to detonate within three feet of the water surface. Shell fragments, unexploded shells, and non-explosive ordnance rapidly decelerate in the water and settle to the sea floor. Steel may contain boron, chromium, cobalt, molybdenum, nickel, selenium, titanium, tungsten, or vanadium to improve its strength or corrosion resistance. The steel and metal alloys are relatively insoluble, but seawater will

eventually oxidize the expended training material into benign by-products (DoN 2008c). The impact of naval shells on the environment under the No Action Alternative would be negligible given that their fate on the ocean bottom is similar to bombs and that the objects are relatively small.

#### 3.3.2.2.4 Targets and Countermeasures

Table 3.3-13 summarizes the number and types of targets and countermeasures anticipated under the No Action Alternative. More detail regarding these training items is provided below. Under all alternatives under most conditions, only the LUU-2B/B illuminating flares, TALDs (tactical air-launched decoy), marine markers, EMATTs (expendable mobile anti-submarine warfare training target), and the sunken vessel(s) are not be recovered.

**Table 3.3-13: Types and Number of Targets and Countermeasures Expended Annually – No Action Alternative**

Type of Target or Countermeasure		Number
<b>Aerial</b>	LUU-2B/B*	0
	TALD*	0
	BQM-74E	0
	TDU-34	72
	RR-129 Chaff*	3,000
<b>Surface</b>	HSMST	0
	Trimaran	0
	SPAR	0
	Killer Tomato	60
	MK-58 Marine Marker*	208
<b>Subsurface</b>	EMATT*	121
<b>Sinking Exercise</b>	Decommissioned Vessel*	1

\* Not recovered

Aerial targets. The tactical air-launched decoy (TALD) is a non-powered, air-launched, aerodynamic vehicle that emits signals to confuse air defense systems during aircraft strike warfare training. It is constructed of aluminum, weighs about 400 pounds, and is not recovered. The BQM-74E is a remote-controlled, subsonic, jet-powered aerial target that can be launched from the air or surface and recovered on land or at sea. The target generates signals for tracking purposes. It is powered by a jet engine and thus contains fuel, oils, hydraulic fluid, batteries, and explosive cartridges. The TDU-34 (“towed drone unit”) is a passive radar target towed by a variety of aircraft. It is constructed of aluminum, plastic, fiber glass, and lead ballast and weighs about 75 pounds. Both the BQM-74E and the TDU-34 are recovered.

Chaff is an aluminum-coated thin glass fiber made as small and light as possible so that it will remain in the air long enough to confuse enemy radar. The RR-129 chaff is packaged in cylinders approximately six inches long and 1.5 inches wide that remain with the aircraft. They weigh about 5 ounces and contain a few million fibers. The chaff fibers are approximately the thickness of a human hair (generally 25.4 microns in diameter), and range in length from 0.3 to 2 inches. The major components of the chaff glass fibers and the aluminum coating are provided in Table 3.3-14 below (USAF 1994).

**Table 3.3-14: Major Components of Chaff**

Component	Percent by Weight
<b>Glass Fiber</b>	
Silicon dioxide	52-56
Alumina	12-16
Calcium oxide, magnesium oxide	16-25
Boron oxide	8-13
Sodium oxide, potassium oxide	1-4
Iron oxide	≤ 1
<b>Aluminum Coating</b>	
Aluminum	99.45 (min.)
Silicon and Iron	0.55 (max.)
Copper	0.05
Manganese	0.05
Zinc	0.05
Vanadium	0.05
Titanium	0.03
Others	0.03

Under the No-action Alternative, approximately 3,000 chaff cartridges would be released over NWTRC open ocean warning areas. The chaff is shot out of launchers using a propellant charge. Other components include a piston used to expel the chaff and an end cap from the launcher. These releases would be distributed over the year, such that the chaff from one exercise would disperse prior to subsequent training events.

Chaff can remain suspended in air anywhere from 10 minutes to 10 hours and can travel considerable distances from its release point, depending on prevailing atmospheric conditions (USAF 1997; Arfsten et al. 2002). Doppler radar has tracked chaff plumes containing approximately 900 grams of chaff drifting 200 miles from the point of release with the plume covering a volume of greater than 400 cubic miles (Arfsten et al. 2002). Based on the dispersion characteristics of chaff, large areas of open water within the PACNW OPAREA would be exposed to chaff, but the chaff concentrations would be low. For example, Hullar *et al.* (1999) calculated that an area five miles by 7.5 miles (28 nm<sup>2</sup>; 96 km<sup>2</sup>) would be affected by deployment of a single cartridge containing 150 grams of chaff. The resulting chaff concentration would be about 5.4 g/nm<sup>2</sup>. This corresponds to less than 179,000 fibers/nm<sup>2</sup> or less than 0.005 fibers/ft<sup>2</sup>, assuming that each canister contains five million fibers.

All of the components of the aluminum coating are present in seawater in trace amounts, except magnesium, which is present at 0.1 percent (Nozaki 2009; see Table 3.4-1). Aluminum itself is the most common metal in the Earth's crust and is a trace element in natural waters. The dissolved concentration of aluminum in seas is 10 micrograms (µg) per liter and less than one µg per liter in the open ocean. (By comparison, the concentration in rivers is 50 µg per liter.) In the ocean, concentrations tend to be higher on the surface, low at middle depths, and higher again at the bottom (Li et al. 2008). Aluminum is a very reactive element and is seldom found as the free metal in nature except under highly acidic (low pH) or alkaline (high pH) conditions. It is found combined with other elements, most commonly with oxygen, silicon, and fluorine. These chemical compounds are commonly found in soil, minerals, rocks, and clays

(ATSDR 2008, USAF 1994). Elemental aluminum in seawater tends to be converted by hydrolysis to aluminum hydroxide, which is relatively insoluble, and that is scavenged by particulates and transported to the bottom sediments (MBARI 2002). The stearic acid coating is used to aid dispersion of the fibers. It is a natural saturated fatty acid and is biodegradable and nontoxic.

A number of unknown factors determine the deposition of chaff and its distribution in air and on the Earth's surface (e.g., soil, sediment, and water). These factors include, but are not limited to, the altitude and location, prevailing winds, and meteorological conditions where chaff is released (Hullar et al. 1999). However, chaff fibers are well-dispersed upon ejection from the launcher and would have no discernable effect on the marine environment (USAF 1997).

Because of their light weight, chaff fibers tend to float on the water surface for awhile. Once below the surface, they act like fine particulates, temporarily increasing the turbidity and reducing the clarity of the ocean's surface waters. The fibers are quickly dispersed more by waves and currents. The fibers are too short and fine to pose an entanglement risk. They may be accidentally or intentionally ingested by marine life, but the fibers are non-toxic. Chemicals leached from the chaff will be diluted by the surrounding seawater, reducing the potential for concentrations of these chemicals to build up to levels that can affect sediment quality and benthic habitats. In the USAF study (1994), of the nine elements analyzed under various pH conditions, i.e., silicon, aluminum, magnesium, boron, copper, manganese, zinc, vanadium, and titanium, only four were detected above 0.02 mg per liter limit – magnesium, aluminum, zinc, and boron.

As reported in Systems Consultants (1977), Venezky (1977) placed chaff samples in Chesapeake Bay water for 13 days. No increases greater than 1 part per million of aluminum, cadmium, copper, iron, and zinc were detected. Given that no ongoing mixing was occurring in this experiment, accumulation and concentration of chaff constituents is not likely. In tests of marine organisms from Chesapeake Bay, Systems Consultants (1977) found no adverse effects from chaff exposure at levels “far in excess of those...encountered in the actual environment.” Animals included oysters, mussels, blue crab, menhaden (a fish), killifish, and a polychaete worm. Haley and Kurnas (1992) conducted laboratory tests with mysid shrimp and sheepshead minnow and found no toxicity at concentrations greater than 1,000 mg per liter, a level far in excess of those to be expected in NWTRC. Information was not available concerning the ability of surface or bottom feeding waterfowl and other aquatic species to process ingested chaff. Effects from inhalation are not considered a significant issue, since chaff particles would represent a small percentage of the particulates regularly inhaled by animals. Given the properties of chaff fibers, skin irritation is not expected to be a problem.

Surface targets. A typical surface target is a remotely-controlled boat such as the high speed maneuverable surface targets (HSMST), a self-propelled, remote-controlled 24-foot platform that is used to tow other targets, such as the trimaran. The HSMST is recovered after use. The trimaran is a three-hulled boat with a four-foot-square sail that provides a moving target. A “Killer Tomato” is a large, inflatable, plastic target that can be towed or left stationary. These are recovered after use.

Underwater targets. Expendable mobile anti-submarine warfare training targets (EMATTs) are air or surface-launched torpedo-like devices that maneuver in the ocean and emit magnetic or acoustic signals that are monitored by airborne and surface vessels for training purposes. The size of each EMATT is approximately 5 by 36 inches (12 by 91 cm) and weighs approximately 21 lbs (10 kg). The duration of operation is about three hours at which time the target scuttles and sinks. Expended materials associated with EMATTs include parachute assembly (12 to 18 inches [30 to 45 cm]) and nylon chord, lithium sulfur dioxide battery, metal casing, metal clips, nylon strap, and electrical wiring.

Most target fragments would sink quickly in the sea. Expended material that sinks to the sea floor would gradually degrade, be overgrown by marine life, or be incorporated into the sediments. Floating, non-hazardous expended material may be lost from target boats and would either degrade over time or wash ashore as flotsam.

Sinking exercise. A decommissioned ship is used during a vessel-sinking exercise (SINKEX). These ships are selected from a list of U.S. Navy-approved vessels that have been cleaned in accordance with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) guidelines; the Navy conducts SINKEX activities under an existing EPA General Permit (40 CFR §229.2). USEPA considers the contaminant levels released during a SINKEX to be within the standards of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act (16 USC 1341, et seq.). As with other inert materials discussed in the text, the vessel would become encrusted by chemical processes and biological organisms and not pose a hazard to ocean water resources.

The target is towed to a designated location where various weapons fire at the vessel. By rule, SINKEX is conducted at least 50 nautical miles offshore (92 km<sup>2</sup>) and in water at least 6,000 feet deep (1,830 m) (40 CFR §229.2). Only minimal concentrations of hazardous chemicals have been detected in water and sediments around Navy ships that were sunk to create artificial reefs (SPAWAR Systems Center 2006).

Markers and flares. The LUU-2B/B is a flare that illuminates targets by burning magnesium at high temperature while suspended from a parachute. The LUU-2B is constructed of aluminum and weighs about 30 pounds (13.6 kg). The entire assembly is usually consumed during flight (Global Security 2008). Marine markers are pyrotechnic devices dropped on the water's surface used in training exercises to mark a surface position on the ocean surface. The chemical flame of a marine marker burns like a flare but also produces smoke. The MK-58 marker is a tin tube that weighs about four pounds (1.8 kg) and produces a yellow flame and white smoke for 10 to 20 minutes. It contains a red phosphorus compound that is ignited by a seawater-activated battery (Ordnance Shop 2008). Any remaining materials from marine markers would sink into bottom sediments or become encrusted by chemical processes or by marine animals.

The major constituents of flares are aluminum and magnesium. Some flares also contain chromium and lead. Elemental aluminum in seawater tends to be converted by hydrolysis to aluminum hydroxide, which is relatively insoluble, and scavenged by particulates and transported to the bottom sediments (MBARI 2008). Combustion products from flares are mostly non-hazardous, including magnesium oxide, sodium carbonate, carbon dioxide, and water. Small amounts of metals are used to give flares and other pyrotechnic materials bright and distinctive colors. The amounts of flare residues are negligible, and the chemical constituents do not substantially affect water quality resources (DoN 2008c).

Illuminating flares and marine markers are consumed during use. Smoke from marine markers rapidly diffuses by air movement. The marker itself is not designed to be recovered and would eventually sink to the bottom and become encrusted or incorporated into the sediments (Q&S Engineering 2007). Phosphorus contained in the marker settles to the sea floor, where it reacts with the water to produce phosphoric acid until all phosphorus is consumed by the reaction. Phosphoric acid is a variable, but normal, component of seawater. Combustion of red phosphorus produces phosphorus oxides, which have a low toxicity to aquatic organisms and is not anticipated to have a significant effect on the marine environment (DoN 2006a). Seawater-activated batteries would be expended during their normal service life and would not present a significant impact to the environment.

Summary: Targets and Countermeasures. An extensive study conducted at Canadian Forces Maritime Experimental and Test Ranges near Nanoose, British Columbia, concluded that in general, the direct impact of military expended material accumulation on the sea floor appeared to be minimal and had no detectable effects on wildlife or sediment quality (CFMETR 2005). Under the No Action Alternative,

only a negligible impact on the environment from targets and countermeasures will occur within the PACNW OPAREA because: 1) the majority of targets (62 percent) are marine markers that are consumed by chemical reactions that produce smoke; 2) most of the remaining targets and countermeasures are recovered after use; and 3) the majority of weighting and anchoring materials used for proposed range enhancements are inert and are buried in bottom sediments.

Infrequently, a recoverable target may be lost. In those cases, the hazardous materials of concern include propellant, petroleum products, metals, and batteries. Small concentrations of fuel and ionic metals released during battery operation could enter the water and contaminate limited areas. However, they do not represent a source of substantial environmental degradation. The potential impact of batteries on water quality is discussed in Section 3.4, Water Resources. The potential impact of the vessel-sinking exercise on marine communities is discussed in Section 3.6, Invertebrates and Plants.

### 3.3.2.2.5 Torpedoes

The MK-48 ADCAP torpedo is the Navy's only torpedo used for engagement of other submarine and surface targets in the Study Area. The ADCAP torpedo is an acoustic homing torpedo used in force protection. It is 19 feet long (5.8m) with a 21-inch diameter and weighs roughly 3,700 pounds (1,680 kg). It is not recovered after use. Although the hazardous materials list for the MK-48 is classified, it uses Otto fuel II as a propellant. Otto fuel II is composed of propylene glycol dinitrate and nitro diphenylamine (76 percent), dibutyl sebacate (23 percent) and 2-nitrodiphenylamine as a stabilizer (2 percent). The exhaust products of the combustion are nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), carbon monoxide (CO), carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), hydrogen (H<sub>2</sub>), nitrogen (N<sub>2</sub>), methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>), and hydrogen cyanide (HCN) (DoN 2008a). During normal venting of excess pressure or upon failure of the torpedo's buoyancy bag, the following are discharged: CO<sub>2</sub>, water, H<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>, CO, methane, ammonia, hydrochloric acid (HCl), hydrogen cyanide (HCN), formaldehyde (CH<sub>2</sub>O), potassium chloride (KCl), ferrous oxide (FeO), potassium hydroxide (KOH), and potassium carbonate (K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>) (DoN 1996).

Each torpedo also deploys a guidance wire during each run that can be up to 15 miles long (28 km). The guidance wire is a maximum of 0.043 in (0.11 cm) in diameter and composed of a very fine thin-gauge copper-cadmium core with a polyolefin coating. The tensile breaking strength of the wire is a maximum of 42 lb (19 kg) and can be broken by hand. Wire deployed will sink to the sea floor at a rate of 0.3 mi/hr (0.5 km/hr). The metallic flex hose protects the guidance wire and prevents it from forming loops as it leaves the tube (DoN 2008b).

Under the No Action Alternative, the ADCAP would be a live, explosive torpedo that would explode on impact with the SINKEX target. This will have a negligible impact on the PACNW OPAREA environment.

### 3.3.2.2.6 Small Caliber Rounds

Under the No Action Alternative, a total of 59,724 small caliber rounds would be used in the PACNW OPAREA (Table 3.3-15). This amounts to 1.8 items per nm<sup>2</sup> (0.5 per km<sup>2</sup>), assuming an even distribution of activities.

All of these materials would come to rest on the bottom of the ocean exposed to seawater or lodge in bottom sediments. The .50 caliber rounds are composed of steel with small amounts of aluminum and copper and brass casings that are 70 percent copper and 30 percent zinc. As they corrode, these materials would release small amounts of iron, aluminum, and copper into the sediments and the overlying water column. All three elements are widespread in the natural environment, although elevated levels can cause toxic reactions in exposed plants and animals. Any elevation of metals in sediments would be restricted to a small zone around the bullet, and any release to the overlying water column would be diluted. The



7.62mm projectiles have lead cores and lead has been identified as a toxic contaminant under Section 307 of the Clean Water Act. However, lead is nearly insoluble in water, particularly at the near-neutral pH levels. While it is reasonable to assume some dissolution of lead could occur, such releases into the water column would be small and would be diluted (DoN 2006a). Given these observations and the widespread distribution of the items across the W-237, small caliber rounds would have negligible impacts on the environment.

**Table 3.3-15: Types and Number of Small Caliber Rounds Expended Annually – No Action Alternative**

Type of Ordnance	Number	Percent of Total
7.62 mm projectile	1,224	2
.50 caliber rounds	58,500	98
<b>Total</b>	<b>59,724</b>	

### 3.3.2.2.7 Sonobuoys

Sonobuoys are expendable metal cylinders launched from aircraft and ships that collect and generate information about the marine environment and potential threats and targets. Sonobuoys are about five inches in diameter (13 cm) and 36 inches in length (one meter), weigh 14 to 39 pounds (6 to 18 kilograms). They consist of two main sections, a surface unit that contains a seawater battery and a metal subsurface unit. The seawater battery becomes energized following contact with the water. The subsurface assembly descends to a selected depth, the metal case falls away, and sea anchors deploy to stabilize the hydrophone (underwater microphone). At this point, an active sonobuoy emits a sound pulse to generate an echo from a potential threat or target, and a passive sonobuoy listens for sound from a potential threat or target. Other sonobuoys (e.g., SSQ-36 BT) gather information about conditions in the water, such as temperature and ambient noise, that improve accuracy of detection or that may assist in avoiding detection. In addition to the sonobuoy's power source, expendable materials include a parachute assembly (12- to 18-inch diameter nylon chute), nylon cord, plastic casing, antenna float, metal clips, and electrical wires).

Under the No Action Alternative, a total of 9,132 sonobuoys would be expended in the PACNW OPAREA (Table 3.3-16). With an area in W-237 of approximately 33,997 nm<sup>2</sup> (116,610 km<sup>2</sup>) and assuming even distribution of activities, this amounts to 0.3 sonobuoys per nm<sup>2</sup> (0.08 per km<sup>2</sup>). In terms of the inert components of sonobuoys, this level of deposition would have a negligible impact on ocean water resources. Sonobuoy components of potential concern for hazardous materials are the seawater batteries, lithium batteries, battery electrodes, metal housing, lead solder, copper wire, and lead used for ballast (Naval Facilities Engineering Command [NFEC] 1993).

**Table 3.3-16: Types and Number of Sonobuoys Expended Annually – No Action Alternative**

Type of Sonobuoy	Number	Percent of Total
SSQ-53 DIFAR (passive)	7,283	80
SSQ-62 DICASS (active)	844	9
SSQ-77 VLAD (passive)	593	7
SSQ-36 BT (passive)	288	3
SSQ-110A (explosive)	124	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,132</b>	

### Sonobuoy Batteries – Potential Impacts

Regardless of type, each sonobuoy contains a seawater battery housed in the upper, floating portion and which supplies power to the sonobuoy. These seawater batteries contain about 300 grams of lead, in addition to battery electrodes composed of lead chloride, cuprous thiocyanide, or silver chloride (Green et al. 1996). In cases where the upper portion of the sonobuoy is lost to the seabed, the lead batteries are also lost (CFMETR 2005). Silver chloride, lithium, or lithium iron disulfide thermal batteries are used to power subsurface units. The lithium-sulphur batteries used typically contain lithium sulphur dioxide and lithium bromide, but may also contain lithium carbon monofluoroxide, lithium manganese dioxide, sulphur dioxide, and acenitrile (a cyanide compound). During battery operation, the lithium reacts with the sulfur dioxide to form lithium dithionite. Lithium iron disulfide thermal batteries are used in DICASS sonobuoys. An important component of the thermal battery is a hermetically-sealed casing of welded stainless steel 0.03 to 0.1-inch thick that is resistant to the battery electrolytes.

The evaluation of the potential effects associated with seawater batteries includes comparing the expected concentrations of potentially toxic battery constituents with USEPA water quality criteria that have been established for the protection of aquatic life (USEPA 2006) or the best available literature values that established conservative toxicity thresholds. USEPA recommends application of a one-hour acute limit and four-day chronic limit (Table 3.3-17). Either limit cannot be exceeded more than once every three years on the average.

**Table 3.3-17: Threshold Values for Safe Exposure to Selected Metals**

Metal	Acute Criteria (µg/L, 24-hour exposure)	Chronic Criteria (µg/L, 4-hour mean exposure)
Lead	210	8.1
Silver	1.9	n/a
Copper	4.8	3.1
Lithium	6,000	n/a

n/a = no chronic value is available; µg/L = micrograms per liter; values shown are based on (Kszos et al. 2003)

Chemical reactions with sonobuoy batteries proceed almost to completion once the cell is activated, and only a small amount of reactants remain when the battery life ends. These residual materials will slowly dissolve and become diluted by ongoing ocean and tidal currents. Given the mobility characteristics for the most soluble battery constituent, lead chloride, there is low potential for substantial accumulation of such material in sediments. In addition, the outside metal case can become encrusted from seawater processes and marine organisms, thus slowing the rate of further corrosion. Also, many of the components of concern are coated with plastic to reduce corrosion, providing an effective barrier to water exchange. In instances where seawater causes the body of the sonobuoy to corrode, that corrosion will take at least 40 years (Klassen and Roberge 2005).

Lithium always occurs as a stable mineral or salt, such as lithium chloride or lithium bromide (Kszos et al. 2003). Lithium is naturally present in freshwater, soil, and sediment, and has an average concentration of 150 parts per million (ppm) in the water column, 35 ppm in sediments at Dabob Bay (Crecelius 2001), and 57 ppm in marine pelagic sediments in the Strait of Georgia (CFMETR 2005). A study conducted by Kszos et al. (2003) demonstrated that sodium ions in saltwater mitigate the toxicity of lithium to sensitive aquatic species. Fathead minnows (*Pimephales promelas*) and the water flea (*Ceriodaphnia dubia*) were unaffected by lithium concentrations as high as 6 mg/L in the presence of tolerated concentrations of sodium. Therefore, it is expected that, in the marine environment where sodium concentrations are at least



an order of magnitude higher than tolerance limits for the tested freshwater species, lithium would be essentially nontoxic. One estimate concluded that 99 percent of the lithium in a battery would be released to the environment over 55 years (Klassen and Roberge 2005). The release will result in a dissolved lithium concentration of 83 mg/L in the immediate area of the breach in the sonobuoy housing. At a distance of 5.5 mm from the breach, the lithium concentration from the battery would add about 15 mg/L, or an additional 10 percent of typical seawater lithium values (150 ppm); thus it would be difficult to discern the additional concentration due to the lithium leakage from the background concentration (Klassen and Roberge 2005). Because of these factors, lithium batteries would not adversely affect marine water quality.

Several studies have evaluated the potential impacts of batteries expended in seawater (NFEC 1993, U.S. Coast Guard [USCG] 1994, Borener and Maugham 1998, and CFMETR 2005). Sediment samples were taken adjacent to and near the navigation sites and analyzed for all metal constituents in the batteries. Results indicated that metals were either below or consistent with background levels or they compared favorably with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) sediment screening levels (NOAA 2008), reportable quantities under Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) §103(a), or USEPA toxicity procedures (USEPA 2008).

A study by the Department of the Navy examined the impact of materials from activated seawater batteries in sonobuoys that dissolve in the water column (e.g., lead, silver, and copper), as well as nickel-plated steel housing, lead solder, copper wire, and lead shot used for sonobuoy ballast (NFEC 1993). The study concluded that constituents released from saltwater batteries as well as the decomposition of other sonobuoy components did not exceed state and federal standards and that the reaction products are short-lived in seawater.

The sonobuoy battery experiment employed lead chloride batteries in a 17-gallon seawater bath for eight hours (NFEC 1993). Under these conditions, the dilution assumptions are conservative relative to normal ocean bottom conditions. The concentration released from the battery was diluted to 0.2 mg/L or 200 micrograms per liter ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ ) in two seconds, which is less than the acute criteria of 210  $\mu\text{g/L}$ , a criteria applied as a 24-hour mean. Further, since lead chloride tends to dissolve more readily ( $K_{sp} = 1.0 \times 10^{-4}$ ) than either silver chloride ( $K_{sp} = 1.56 \times 10^{-10}$ ) and copper thiocyanate ( $K_{sp} = 1.64 \times 10^{-11}$ ) (International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry/National Institute of Standards and Technology 2008), this assures that the potential effects from batteries employing silver chloride or copper thiocyanate are substantially lower than those for the lead chloride battery. While the copper thiocyanate battery also has the potential to release cyanide, a material often toxic to the marine environment, thiocyanate is tightly bound and can form a salt or bind to bottom sediments. Therefore, the risk associated with thiocyanate is very low.

A study of the impacts of lead and lithium (among other materials) was conducted at the Canadian Forces Maritime Experimental and Test Ranges near Nanoose Bay, British Columbia, Canada (CFMETR 2005). These materials are common to EMATTs, acoustic device countermeasures (ADCs), sonobuoys, and torpedoes. The study noted that lead is a naturally-occurring heavy metal in the environment. Typical concentrations of lead in seawater in the test range are between 0.01 and 0.06 ppm, and from 4 to 16 ppm in sediments (Crecelius 2001). Factors that are generally understood to reduce risks associated with contaminated sediments include acid-volatile sulfide concentrations and organic carbon. Both act to reduce the bioavailability of metals (USEPA 2001). Cores taken of marine sediments in the test range show a steady increase in lead concentration from the bottom of the core to a depth of approximately 8 inches (20 cm). This depth corresponds to the late 1970s and early 1980s and was attributed to atmospheric deposition from lead as a gasoline additive. The sediment cores showed a general reduction in concentration to the present time, coincident with the phasing out of lead in gasoline by the mid-1980s. The study also noted that studies at other ranges have shown minimal impacts of lead ballasts because they are usually buried deep in marine sediments where they are not biologically available. The study

concluded that there would be no effects from the lead ballasts due to the low probability of mobilization (CFMETR 2005).

Regarding lithium, cores taken of marine sediments in the test range showed fairly consistent lithium concentrations with depth, indicating little change in lithium deposition with time. Given ambient lithium concentrations taken outside the range, the report concluded that “it is difficult to demonstrate an environmental impact of lithium caused by CFMETR.”

#### Explosive Sonobuoys – Potential Impacts of Detonation Byproducts

Only one type of explosive sonobuoy is proposed for use in the PACNW OPAREA, the SSQ-110A. This sonobuoy is composed of two sections, an active – explosive – section and a passive section. The upper section is similar to the upper electronics package of the SSQ-62 DICASS sonobuoy, while the lower section consists of two explosive payloads of Class A explosive weighing 4.2 pounds each (1.9 kg). This explosive is composed of cyclo-1,3,5-tetramethylene-2,4,6-tetranitramine (HLX), which is 90 percent RDX, plus small amounts (less than 0.3 grams) of plastic-bonded explosive (PBXN) and hexanitrostilbene, a detonator component. Once in the water, the charges explode, creating a loud acoustic signal.

The detonation creates an air bubble of gaseous byproducts that travels to the surface and escapes into the atmosphere. A small amount of the gas, however, dissolves into the water column. Explosive byproducts using the Cheetah 4 computational program are summarized on Table 3.3-18. The byproduct with the greatest toxicity is hydrogen fluoride compounds ( $H_xF_x$ ), a reaction byproduct associated with the binding agent used to stabilize the HLX (DoN 2008b).

**Table 3.3-18: Detonation Byproducts from Explosive Sonobuoys**

Detonation Byproducts	Initial Detonation State		Ambient	
	Grams per charge	Percent of total	Grams per charge	Percent of total
Hydrogen fluoride compounds ( $H_xF_x$ )	24.6	1.3%	12.5	0.8%
Nitrogen ( $N_2$ )	634.0	34.5%	675.0	42.1%
Carbon dioxide ( $CO_2$ )	669.0	36.4%	565.0	35.3%
Water ( $H_2O$ )	211.0	11.5%	332.0	20.7%
Ammonia ( $NH_3$ )	61.0	3.3%	13.4	0.8%
Formic acid ( $CH_2O_2$ )	156.0	8.5%	1.7	0.1%
Ethylene ( $C_2H_6$ )	84.6	4.6%	2.1	0.1%

Laboratory studies with freshwater species indicate a probable no effect concentration of 0.9 and 0.4 mg/L for hard and soft water, respectively. These values are apparently close to background levels measured in many natural water bodies. Characterization of natural exposure levels and effects in saltwater are needed to provide further basis for the assessment of risks in marine systems. However, only a small percentage (0.63 percent) of the available hydrogen fluoride detonation byproduct is expected to dissolve in the water prior to reaching the surface, and the dilution that would occur upon mixture with ambient water would be rapid (DoN 2008b). Given this dilution, the size of the PACNW OPAREA across which the sonobuoys will be deployed, and the relatively few explosive sonobuoys used under the No Action Alternative, adverse impacts from detonation byproducts would be negligible.

### 3.3.2.2.8 Underwater Detonations

Mine countermeasure (MCM) training involves underwater explosive detonations at three locations – Crescent Harbor, Floral Point in Hood Canal at NBK-Bangor, and west of Indian Island in Port Townsend Bay. These are the Navy’s designated locations for MCM training and have been used consistently for this purpose for several years. The sites at EOD Crescent Harbor and EOD Indian Island are between 1,000 to 7,200 feet (330 to 2200 m) from the nearest shoreline and the detonations typically occur in 50 to 60 feet (15 to 20 m) of water over sandy or muddy bottoms. EOD Floral Point is about 600 feet (183 m) offshore and charges are placed on a training structure that is 3 to 8 feet (1 to 3 m) above the bottom (National Marine Fisheries Service [NMFS] 2008).

MCM training familiarizes personnel with the destruction of mines, unexploded ordnance, obstacles, and other structures. Table 3.3-19 summarizes the materials and the level of activity at each site. The number of charges proposed for Crescent Harbor represents 88 percent of the total.

**Table 3.3-19: Materials Expended during Mine Countermeasure Training – No Action Alternative**

Location	Charge Size	Number
EOD Crescent Harbor	< 2.5 lbs	3
	2.5 lbs	45
	5.0 lbs	1
	20.0 lbs	4
EOD Floral Point	2.5 lb	3
EOD Indian Island	2.5 lbs	3
	20.0 lbs	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>

The mines involved are inert (not explosive) shapes similar in composition to practice bombs in that they are pieces of concrete or steel cases formed in the shape of a mine. Underwater detonation training involves detonation of charges at or near the surface and the bottom. Each exercise entails placement of the dummy mine in the training area, location of the mine by EOD personnel, placement of the charge on or near the mine, attachment of detonating equipment, detonation, military expended material retrieval, and in-water inspection of the detonation site. In some of the exercises, a disabled mine is raised and moved ashore for dismantling and inspection. However, the disabled mines are eventually recovered. Typically two blocks of C-4 are used per activity, with each activity consisting of one surface and one subsurface detonation. The total duration of the exercise is five hours (NMFS 2008).

After the detonation, both boats return to the detonation site. All surface military expended material, consisting mainly of floats and attached equipment, is retrieved. The divers retrieve military expended material from the seafloor, which consists mainly of pieces of the mine and the explosive housing (i.e., pieces of aluminum, plastic, or copper). The majority of the explosive itself is consumed. In cases where the mine is only disabled, not destroyed, the mine is either loaded into the primary boat, if the mine is small enough, or suspended below the boat. The mine is then taken to a remote beach for dismantling and inspection. Again, this is a dummy mine (lacking explosive), so a detonation is not possible at this point (NMFS 2008).

Two issues are of potential concern for hazardous materials regarding underwater detonations – solid military expended material and the byproducts of the underwater detonations.

Adverse impacts from solid military expended material resulting from mine countermeasure training at each site under the No Action Alternative would be negligible because of standard site investigation, and clean up procedures.

The explosive used is C-4, composed of RDX (hexahydro-1,3,5-trinitro-1,3,5-triazine) (approximately 95 percent), plus a plastic binder (polyisobutylene). Most of the charges are linear “shaped” charges contained in copper, aluminum, or plastic housing. Some of these charges are intended to disable “limpet” mines on the hulls of ships, while others are designed to disable moored or bottom mines (NMFS 2008). Table 3.3-20 details the byproducts of underwater detonation of C-4.

**Table 3.3-20: Byproducts of Underwater Detonation of RDX**

Byproducts	Percent of Total, by Weight
Nitrogen	37.0
Carbon dioxide	24.9
Water	16.4
Carbon monoxide	18.4
Ethane	1.6
Hydrogen	0.3
Propane	0.2
Ammonia	0.9
Methane	0.2
Hydrogen cyanide	< 0.01
Methyl alcohol	< 0.01
Formaldehyde	< 0.01
Other compounds	< 0.01

High-order detonations result in almost complete conversion of explosives (99.997 percent; USACE 2007). The majority of these byproducts are commonly found in seawater, that is, water, carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), hydrogen (H<sub>2</sub>), carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen (N<sub>2</sub>), and ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>) (Renner and Short 1980, DoN 2000). These byproducts represent 98 percent of all byproducts produced. The remaining byproducts are either gases or liquids that will dissipate, evaporate, or dilute to undetectable or insignificant levels, or they react with constituents of salt water in the existing currents to form harmless substances.

During mine countermeasure training under the No Action Alternative, the prospects of adverse impacts from low-order or no detonation are minimal because procedures require EOD personnel to return to and inspect the detonation site, to clean up military expended material, and to retrieve unexploded materials for further examination. Therefore, the overall impact with respect to hazardous material constituents would be negligible.

### 3.3.2.2.9 Land Detonations

Land detonations occur at demolition training ranges (DTRs) at Seaplane Base and at Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor. Each DTR is a designated area and structure in which EOD training is conducted. EOD personnel must re-qualify on a monthly basis to use explosives. Per Navy requirements, the overall DTR area is relatively flat and 1,000 feet in diameter (152 m) within which a 100-foot-diameter area is cleared of all

vegetation and combustible materials. A detonation enclosure is constructed at the center. The enclosure is roughly 20 feet square with walls that are 8 feet (2.4 m) high, 8 inches (20 cm) thick, and composed of wood or plastic lumber, concrete, and sandbags. The interior of the enclosure is lined with an impermeable material to prevent infiltration of constituents through the soil to water pathways. A 12-inch (30 cm) layer of sand is placed over this layer. DTRs are also covered when not in use to prevent water intrusion [OPNAVINST 8027.6B].

These actions prevent the movement of ordnance constituent contamination to soils beyond the impact area. Site access is usually controlled by a perimeter fence, with additional security patrols operating during training activities. DTRs are subject to routine testing and clearing actions. Because of the long-term use of the DTRs and repeated disturbances in these areas, little vegetation is present and the areas are considered disturbed.

Table 3.3-21 summarizes the amount and size of the ordnance used at DTR Seaplane and DTR Bangor under the No Action Alternative. Based on 102 training sessions per year, there would be about 29 detonations per session, over half of which are 1.25-pound charges. In addition to C-4, other explosives and explosive components include detonating cord, fuses, igniters, blasting caps, hand grenades, and smoke grenades.

**Table 3.3-21: Size and Number of DTR Detonations per Year – No Action Alternative**

Training Location	Detonation Type	Number	Percent of Total*
<b>DTR Seaplane Base</b>	Detasheet C-2	800	27.3
	Detasheet 2.0 lbs	240	8.2
	C-4 – 1.25 lb block	1,476	50.4
	C-4 – 2.0 lbs block	240	8.2
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>2,756</b>	
<b>DTR Bangor</b>	Detasheet C-2	50	1.7
	Detasheet 2.0 lbs	15	0.5
	C-4 – 1.25 lb block	94	3.2
	C-4 – 2.0 lb block	15	0.5
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>174</b>	
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,930</b>	

\* Numbers may not sum due to rounding

The byproducts of C-4 detonation are the following substances in gaseous or liquid form: nitrogen, carbon dioxide, water, carbon monoxide, hydrogen, ethane, ammonia, propane, and methane (Renner and Short 1980). Table 3.3-22 details the amount of each of these byproducts by weight based on a 1.25-lb charge. By weight, 78 percent of these materials are not harmful (i.e., nitrogen, carbon dioxide, and water). In total, there would be 4.0 pounds (1.8 kg) released per activity at DTR Seaplane Base and 0.25 pound (0.1 kg) per activity at DTR Bangor. These materials could potentially contaminate the soils contained in the detonation enclosure. However, all of these byproducts will dissipate or evaporate in the open air and would not be considered hazardous under those circumstances.

**Table 3.3-22: Byproducts of C-4 Detonation – 1.25-Pound Charge**

Byproduct of C-4 Detonation	Pounds Released	Percent
Nitrogen	0.463	37.0
Carbon dioxide	0.313	25.0
Carbon monoxide	0.230	18.4
Water	0.205	16.4
Ethane	0.020	1.6
Ammonia	0.011	0.9
Hydrogen	0.004	0.3
Propane	0.003	0.2
Methane	0.003	0.2

### 3.3.2.2.10 Aviation Fuel and Other Propellants

Under the No Action Alternative, a total of 7,586 sorties would be flown by fixed-wing aircraft, helicopters, and unmanned aerial vehicles (Table 3.3-23).

**Table 3.3-23: Aircraft Sorties per Year – No Action Alternative**

Type of Aircraft	Number of Sorties	Percent of Total
Fixed-wing aircraft	7,478	98.5
Helicopter	96	1.3
Unmanned aerial vehicles	12	0.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,586</b>	

Issues associated with aviation fuel arise with the need to jettison fuel from a manned aircraft or with the loss of an unmanned aircraft. Both situations are infrequent and occur only in emergency situations. Aircraft with offshore in-flight emergencies that require the craft to weigh less will jettison stores, not fuel. Aircraft operating from an aircraft carrier that experience in-flight emergencies prefer to divert to a land-based airfield rather than a carrier landing. Fuel that is jettisoned is discarded above 8,000 feet (2,500 m) over water west of Naval Air Station Whidbey Island just prior to landing. At that elevation, the fuel dissipates in the air before any liquid reaches the ground. Given the small number of such incidents and the wide area across which they might occur, neither issue would have more than a negligible impact on the environment.

### 3.3.2.2.11 Other Expended Training Materials

Under the No Action Alternative, a total of 539 smoke canisters would be used during DTR exercises. These canisters are sheet metal cylinders that contain an oxidizer, a fuel, a dye, and a substance to keep the subsequent chemical reaction from getting too hot. Burning of this mixture evaporates the dye and forces it out of the device, where it condenses in the atmosphere to form a smoke of finely dispersed particles. Smoke canisters are not recovered. The primary pollutants from smoke canisters are carbon dioxide and particulates (smoke). Other pollutants are emitted at low levels. These materials were dismissed from further analysis because the majority of the constituents are consumed by heat and smoke, both of which dissipate in the air.

### 3.3.2.3 Alternative 1

Table 3.3-1 summarizes the types and amounts of training items under each alternative that may present issues related to hazardous materials. The text below compares the amounts and types of training materials under the No Action Alternative with Alternative 1. Although Alternative 1 includes potential increases in the number of certain individual training activities while aircraft are airborne and ships are at sea, these additional activities alone do not correspond to an increase in either aircraft flights or flight hours, or at-sea time for the ships.

#### 3.3.2.3.1 Bombs

Under Alternative 1, a total of 144 bombs would be expended in the PACNW OPAREA, most in W-237. This represents a 33 percent increase over the No Action Alternative (Table 3.3-24). Over 75 percent of the bombs would be inert. With an area in W-237 of approximately 33,997 nm<sup>2</sup> (116,610 km<sup>2</sup>) and assuming even distribution of activities, this amounts to 0.004 item per nm<sup>2</sup> (0.001 per km<sup>2</sup>). Given the potential impacts of bombs as described for the No Action Alternative, this increase under Alternative 1 will have a negligible impact on the PACNW OPAREA environment.

**Table 3.3-24: Types and Number of Bombs Expended Annually – No Action and Alternative 1**

Type of Bomb	No Action	Alternative 1		
	Number	Number	Numerical Increase	Percent Increase
MK-82 – Live	12	18	6	50
BDU-45 – Inert	88	110	22	25
MK-83 – Live	4	8	4	100
MK-84 – Live	4	8	4	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>33</b>

#### 3.3.2.3.2 Missiles

Under Alternative 1, an additional 25 missiles would be used over the No Action Alternative (Table 3.3-25). Of these additional missiles, 15 (43 percent) would be new to the NWTRC – Sparrow, Sidewinder, and AMRAAM – that would support target training with new equipment. No new types of exercises would be planned. Given the number of missiles and the wide area across which they would be used, there would be only a negligible impact on the PACNW OPAREA environment.

**Table 3.3-25: Types and Number of Missiles Expended Annually – No Action and Alternative 1**

Type of Missile	No Action	Alternative 1	
	Number	Number	Numerical Increase
AIM-7 Sparrow	0	6	6
AIM-9 Sidewinder	0	5	5
AIM-120 AMRAAM	0	4	4
NATO Sea Sparrow	0	0	0
AGM-88 HARM*	2	4	2



**Table 3.3-25: Types and Number of Missiles Expended Annually – No Action and Alternative 1 (continued)**

Type of Missile	No Action	Alternative 1	
	Number	Number	Numerical Increase
AGM-114 Hellfire	1	2	1
AGM-65 Maverick	3	6	3
AGM-84 Harpoon	3	6	3
SLAM ER	1	2	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>25</b>

\* Not fired

**3.3.2.3.3 Naval Gunfire**

Under Alternative 1, 14 percent more shells (3,495) would be used compared to the No Action Alternative (Table 3.3-26). With an area in W-237 of approximately 33,997 nm<sup>2</sup> (116,610 km<sup>2</sup>) and assuming even distribution of activities, this amounts to less than 0.9 gunshell per nm<sup>2</sup> (0.25 per km<sup>2</sup>). Almost 60 percent of the shells are 25mm. Given the inert nature of most of the gunshells and the wide dispersion across the W-237, Alternative 1 would have only a negligible impact on the environment.

**Table 3.3-26: Types and Number of Naval Gunshells Expended Annually – No Action and Alternative 1**

Type of Gunshell	No Action	Alternative 1	
	Number	Number	Percent Increase
20mm – inert (CIWS)	7,200	8,000	11
25mm – inert	15,750	17,500	11
57mm – inert	630	700	11
76mm – inert and live	560	800	43
5 inch – inert and live	1,716	2,351	37
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,856</b>	<b>29,351</b>	<b>14</b>

**3.3.2.3.4 Targets and Countermeasures**

Under Alternative 1, there would be a 17 percent increase in the number of targets and countermeasures over the No Action Alternative (Table 3.3-27).

Based on the analysis conducted under the No Action Alternative, only a negligible impact on the PACNW OPAREA environment would occur under Alternative 1.



**Table 3.3-27: Summary of Targets and Countermeasures Expended Annually – No Action and Alternative 1**

Type of Target or Countermeasure		No Action	Alternative 1		
			Change from No Action		
		Number	Number	Numerical Increase	Percent Increase
Aerial	LUU-2B/B*	0	6	6	—
	TALD*	0	11	11	—
	BQM-74E	0	0	0	—
	TDU-34	72	80	8	11
	RR-129 Chaff	3,000	6,000	3,000	100
Surface	HSMST	0	5	5	—
	Trimaran	0	11	11	—
	SPAR	0	17	17	—
	Killer Tomato	60	67	7	12
	MK-58 Marine Marker*	208	215	7	3
Subsurface	EMATT*	121	126	5	4
Sinking Exercise	Decommissioned vessel*	1	2	1	100

\* Not recovered

**3.3.2.3.5 Torpedoes**

Under Alternative 1, two torpedoes would be used, an increase of one over the No Action Alternative. This increase in ordnance will have only a negligible impact on the PACNW OPAREA environment.

**3.3.2.3.6 Small Caliber Rounds**

Under Alternative 1, 11 percent more small caliber rounds would be used compared to the No Action Alternative (from 59,724 to 66,360), of which 98 percent would be .50 caliber rounds (Table 3.3-28). With an area in W-237 of approximately 33,997 nm<sup>2</sup> (116,610 km<sup>2</sup>) and assuming even distribution of activities, this amounts to about 2.0 rounds per nm<sup>2</sup> (0.6 per km<sup>2</sup>). Given the inert nature of these materials, their small size, and the wide dispersion across the PACNW OPAREA, most in W-237, this increase would have only a negligible impact on the environment.

**Table 3.3-28: Types and Number of Small Caliber Rounds Expended Annually – No Action and Alternative 1**

Type of Ordnance	No Action	Alternative 1		
	Number	Number	Numerical Increase	Percent Increase
7.62 mm projectiles	1,224	1,360	136	11.1
.50 cal munitions	58,500	65,000	6,500	11.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>59,724</b>	<b>66,360</b>	<b>6,636</b>	<b>11.1</b>

### 3.3.2.3.7 Sonobuoys

Under Alternative 1, there would be a three percent increase in the number of sonobuoys compared to the No Action Alternative (Table 3.3-29). With an area in W-237 of approximately 33,997 nm<sup>2</sup> (116,610 km<sup>2</sup>) and assuming even distribution of activities, this amounts to less than 0.3 item per nm<sup>2</sup> (0.08 per km<sup>2</sup>).

**Table 3.3-29: Types and Number of Sonobuoys Expended Annually – No Action and Alternative 1**

Type of Sonobuoy	No Action	Alternative 1		
	Number	Number	Numerical Increase	Percent Increase
SSQ-36 BT (passive)	288	295	7	2.4
SSQ-53 DIFAR (passive)	7,283	7,503	220	3.0
SSQ-62 DICASS (active)	844	865	21	2.5
SSQ-77 VLAD (passive)	593	623	30	5.1
SSQ-110A (explosive)	124	136	12	9.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,132</b>	<b>9,422</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>3.2</b>

In terms of the inert components of sonobuoys, this level of deposition would have only a negligible impact on the PACNW OPAREA environment. As previously discussed for the No Action Alternative, sonobuoy batteries and explosive components would not result in adverse hazardous material impacts. This remains true for the three percent increase in sonobuoys proposed under Alternative 1.

### 3.3.2.3.8 Underwater Detonations

In April 2008, the Navy decided to relocate Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit Eleven (EODMU Eleven) forces out of the NWTRC Study Area to Imperial Beach, CA. This move is planned to be completed in the fall of 2009. Two EOD Shore Detachments (Bangor and Northwest) will remain in the NWTRC. These Shore Detachments report to Commander, Navy Region Northwest and respond to regional Navy taskings and incidents. As a result of the EODMU Eleven relocation, mine warfare underwater detonation training will significantly decrease from a yearly maximum of 60 underwater detonations as analyzed in the No Action Alternative (the baseline) to no more than four annual underwater detonations as analyzed in Alternatives 1 and 2. The maximum charge size for these four detonations will be 2.5 pounds. Adverse impacts would be negligible because of low level of activity, the benign nature of the majority of detonation byproducts, and standard site investigation and clean up procedures.

### 3.3.2.3.9 Land Detonations

Under Alternative 1, there would be an eight percent increase in the number of DTR detonations compared to the No Action Alternative (Table 3.3-30). Training sessions would increase from 102 to 110, resulting in about 29 detonations per session, over half of which would be 1.25-pound charges. In addition to C-4, other explosives and explosive components include detonating cord, fuses, igniters, blasting caps, hand grenades, and smoke grenades.

The majority of the detonation byproducts (78 percent) are not hazardous. Of the potentially hazardous byproducts, there would be 4.0 pounds (1.8 kg) released per exercise at DTR Seaplane Base and 0.25 pound (0.1 kg) per exercise at DTR Bangor. However, because those by-products would evaporate or dissipate, potential impacts are considered negligible.

**Table 3.3-30: Size and Number of DTR Detonations per Year – All Alternatives**

Training Location	Detonation Type	No Action	Alternatives 1 and 2	Percent Increase
DTR Seaplane Base	Detasheet C-2	800	862	8
	Detasheet 2.0 lbs	240	259	8
	C-4 – 1.25 lb block	1,476	1,591	8
	C-4 – 2.0 lb block	240	259	8
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>2,756</b>	<b>2,971</b>	8
DTR Bangor	Detasheet C-2	50	55	10
	Detasheet 2.0 lbs	15	17	13
	C-4 – 1.25 lb block	94	102	9
	C-4 – 2.0 lb block	15	16	7
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>190</b>	9
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,930</b>	<b>3,161</b>	8

### 3.3.2.3.10 Aviation Fuel

Total number of sorties and the relative proportion among the aircraft types would remain unchanged from the No Action Alternative. Hazardous material issues associated with aviation fuel arise with the need to jettison fuel from a manned aircraft or with the loss of an unmanned aircraft. Both situations are infrequent. Given the small number of such incidents, that they occur above 8,000 feet (2,500 m), and the wide area across which they might occur, the fuel released would have only a negligible impact on the environment.

### 3.3.2.3.11 Other Expended Training Materials

Under Alternative 1, an additional 42 smoke canisters would be used, an eight percent increase over the No Action Alternative. Given the relatively small increase in canisters used and the speed with which the majority of pollutants would dissipate, there will be only a negligible impact on the environment.

### 3.3.2.4 Alternative 2 (Preferred Alternative)

Table 3.3-1 summarizes the types and amounts of training items under each alternative that may present issues related to hazardous materials. The text below compares the amounts and types of training materials under the No Action Alternative with Alternative 2, the Preferred Alternative. Although Alternative 2 includes potential increases in the number of certain individual training activities while aircraft are airborne and ships are at sea, these additional activities alone do not correspond to an increase in either aircraft flights or flight hours, or at-sea time for the ships.

#### 3.3.2.4.1 Bombs

Under Alternative 2, an additional 36 bombs would be used, a 33 percent increase over the No Action Alternative (Table 3.3-31), the same as Alternative 1. Over 75 percent of the bombs would be inert. With an area in W-237 of approximately 33,997 nm<sup>2</sup> (116,610 km<sup>2</sup>) and assuming even distribution of activities, this amounts to 0.004 item per nm<sup>2</sup> (0.001 per km<sup>2</sup>). Given the negligible impacts of bombs as described for the No Action Alternative, this increase under Alternative 2 will have only a negligible impact on the PACNW OPAREA environment.

**Table 3.3-31: Types and Number of Bombs Expended Annually – No Action and Alternative 2**

Type of Bomb	No Action	Alternative 2	
	Number	Number	Percent Increase
MK-82 – Live	12	18	50
BDU-45 – Inert	88	110	25
MK-83 – Live	4	8	100
MK-84 – Live	4	8	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>33</b>

**3.3.2.4.2 Missiles**

Under Alternative 2, an additional 47 missiles would be used compared to the No Action Alternative (Table 3.3-32). Of these additional missiles, 37 (65 percent) would be new to the NWTRC – Sparrow, Sidewinder, AMRAAM, and Sea Sparrow – to support target training with new equipment. No new types of exercises would be planned. Given the number of missiles and the wide area across which they would be used, there would be only a negligible impact on the PACNW OPAREA environment.

**Table 3.3-32: Types and Number of Missiles Expended Annually – No Action and Alternative 2**

Type of Missile	No Action	Alternative 2	
	Number	Number	Numerical Increase
AIM-7 Sparrow	0	13	13
AIM-9 Sidewinder	0	9	9
AIM-120 AMRAAM	0	7	7
NATO Sea Sparrow	0	8	8
AGM-88 HARM	2	4	2
AGM-114 Hellfire	1	2	1
AGM-65 Maverick	3	6	3
AGM-84 Harpoon	3	6	3
SLAM ER	1	2	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>47</b>

**3.3.2.4.3 Naval Gunfire**

Under Alternative 2, a doubling of the gun shells used would occur (from 25,856 to 53,343; Table 3.3-33). With an area in W-237 of approximately 33,997 nm<sup>2</sup> (116,610 km<sup>2</sup>) and assuming even distribution of activities, this amounts to about 1.6 shells per nm<sup>2</sup> (0.5 per km<sup>2</sup>). Given the largely inert nature of these materials and the wide dispersion across W-237, this increase would have only a negligible impact on the environment.

**Table 3.3-33: Types and Number of Naval Gunshells Expended Annually – No Action and Alternative 2**

Type of Gunshell	No Action	Alternative 2	
	Number	Number	Percent Increase
20mm – live (CIWS)	7,200	16,000	122
25mm – live	15,750	31,500	100
57mm – live	630	1,260	100
76mm – live	560	1,120	100
5 inch – live	1,716	3,463	102
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,856</b>	<b>53,343</b>	<b>106</b>

**3.3.2.4.4 Targets and Countermeasures**

Table 3.3-34 compares proposed changes in the numbers and types of targets and countermeasures under Alternative 2 with the No Action Alternative. Based on the previous analysis under the No Action Alternative, this increase of targets and countermeasures proposed under Alternative 2 would have only a negligible impact on the environment.

**Table 3.3-34: Summary of Targets and Countermeasures Expended Annually – No Action and Alternative 2**

Type of Target or Countermeasure		No Action	Alternative 2		
			Change from No Action		
		Number	Number	Numerical Increase	Percent Increase
<b>Aerial</b>	LUU-2B/B*	0	11	11	—
	TALD*	0	22	22	—
	BQM-74E	0	16	16	—
	TDU-34	72	160	88	122
	RR-129 Chaff*	3,000	6,000	3,000	100
<b>Surface</b>	HSMST	0	9	9	—
	Trimaran	0	20	20	—
	SPAR	0	31	31	—
	Killer Tomato	60	120	60	100
	MK-58 Marine Marker*	208	220	12	6
<b>Subsurface</b>	EMATT*	121	126	5	4
<b>Sinking Exercise</b>	Decommissioned vessel*	1	2	1	100

\* Not recovered

Under Alternative 2, two range enhancements would potentially be added to the project area – a Portable Underwater Tracking Range (PUTR) and a small-scale underwater training minefield. Both are described in Chapter 2. Neither of these range enhancements presents hazardous materials issues. The PUTR

electronic packages would be retrieved and the minefield shapes would be non-explosive and inert. The anchoring system would be in deep water and would remain in place. The system would be deployed for three months each year – approximately June through August – and TRACKEX activities would be conducted for 10 days per month.

#### 3.3.2.4.5 Torpedoes

Under Alternative 2, two torpedoes would be used each year, an increase of one over the No Action Alternative, and the same as Alternative 1. This increase would have only a negligible impact on the PACNW OPAREA environment.

#### 3.3.2.4.6 Small Caliber Rounds

Under Alternative 2, a doubling of the small caliber rounds would occur (from 59,724 to 119,720; Table 3.3-35). With an area in W-237 of approximately 33,997 nm<sup>2</sup> (116,610 km<sup>2</sup>) and assuming even distribution of activities, this amounts to about 3.5 rounds per nm<sup>2</sup> (1.0 per km<sup>2</sup>). Given the inert nature of these materials, their small size, and the wide dispersion across the PACNW OPAREA, most in W-237, this increase would have only a negligible impact on the environment.

**Table 3.3-35: Types and Number of Small Caliber Rounds Expended Annually – No Action and Alternative 2**

Type of Ordnance	No Action	Alternative 2	
	Number	Number	Percent Increase
7.62 mm projectiles	1,224	2,720	122
.50 cal munitions	58,500	117,000	100
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>59,724</b>	<b>119,720</b>	<b>101</b>

#### 3.3.2.4.7 Other Expended Training Materials

Under Alternative 2, an additional 41 smoke canisters would be used compared to the No Action Alternative (8 percent increase; same as Alternative 1). Given the relatively small increase in canisters used and the speed with which the majority of pollutants would dissipate, there will be only a negligible impact on the environment.

#### 3.3.2.4.8 Sonobuoys

Under Alternative 2, a total of 9,651 sonobuoys would be used, an increase of six percent (519) over the No Action Alternative (Table 3.3-36). With an area in W-237 of approximately 33,997 nm<sup>2</sup> (116,610 km<sup>2</sup>) and assuming even distribution of activities, this amounts to 0.3 item per nm<sup>2</sup> (0.08 per km<sup>2</sup>).

#### 3.3.2.4.9 Underwater Detonations

Like Alternative 1, the Navy has decided to relocate Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit Eleven (EODMU Eleven) forces out of the NWTRC Study Area to Imperial Beach, CA. This move is planned to be completed in the fall of 2009. Two EOD Shore Detachments (Bangor and Northwest) will remain in the NWTRC. These Shore Detachments report to Commander, Navy Region Northwest and respond to regional Navy taskings and incidents. As a result of the EODMU Eleven relocation, mine warfare underwater detonation training will decrease from a yearly maximum of 60 underwater detonations as analyzed in the No Action Alternative (the baseline) to no more than four annual underwater detonations as analyzed in Alternatives 1 and 2, a decline of over 90 percent. The maximum charge size of would be



2.5 pounds. Adverse impacts would be negligible because of low level of activity, the benign nature of the majority of detonation byproducts, and standard site investigation and clean up procedures.

**Table 3.3-36: Types and Number of Sonobuoys Expended Annually – No Action and Alternative 2**

Type of Sonobuoy	No Action Alternative	Alternative 2	
	Number	Number	Percent Increase
SSQ-36 BT (passive)	288	302	4.9
SSQ-53 DIFAR (passive)	7,283	7,661	5.2
SSQ-62 DICASS (active)	844	886	5.0
SSQ-77 VLAD (passive)	593	653	10.1
SSQ-110A (explosive)	124	149	20.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,132</b>	<b>9,651</b>	<b>5.7</b>

#### 3.3.2.4.10 Land Detonations

Under Alternative 2, there would be an eight percent increase in the annual number of DTR detonations compared to the No Action Alternative (Table 3.3-28). This is the same as Alternative 1. Therefore, hazardous material impacts would be negligible.

#### 3.3.2.4.11 Aviation Fuel and Other Propellants

Total number of sorties and the relative proportion among the aircraft types would remain unchanged from the No Action Alternative. Hazardous material issues associated with aviation fuel arise with the need to jettison fuel from a manned aircraft or with the loss of an unmanned aircraft. Both situations are infrequent. Given the small number of such incidents, that they occur above 8,000 feet (2,500 m), and the wide area across which they might occur, the fuel released would have only a negligible impact on the environment.

### 3.3.3 Mitigation Measures

As summarized in Section 3.3.4, the alternatives would contribute low amounts of hazardous material to the environment of the NWTRC Study Area. Given the large size of the Study Area and the fate and transport of the constituents, it is unlikely that hazardous materials resulting from the proposed actions could be detectable. Standard Navy protective measures would be employed and no additional mitigation measures would be needed. See Chapter 5 for additional discussion of mitigation measures.

### 3.3.4 Summary of Effects by Alternative

The overall amount of hazardous materials expended during training under Alternatives 1 and 2 would be more than that expended under the No Action Alternative, due primarily to the increased number of training activities.

All hazardous materials would continue to be managed in compliance with applicable federal and state regulations, and Department of Defense guidelines. No substantial changes in hazardous materials management practices are anticipated under any of the alternatives.

As summarized in Table 3.3-37, less than significant overall impacts from hazardous materials are anticipated under the No Action Alternative, Alternative 1, or Alternative 2, the Preferred Alternative. Discarded training materials would be deposited in offshore areas or become buried in the sea floor

sediments, and would have no substantial environmental effects. The overall volume of expended training items would increase in Alternative 1 and Alternative 2, the Preferred Alternative, in correlation to changes in activities.

**Table 3.3-37: Summary of Effects – Hazardous Materials**

Alternative and Stressor	Summary of Effects and Impact Conclusion	
	NEPA (Territorial Waters, 0 to 12 nm)	Executive Order 12114 (Non-territorial Waters, >12 nm)
<b>No Action</b>		
Expended Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term, minor, and localized accumulation of expended materials on the ocean floor.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Long-term, minor, and localized accumulation of expended materials on the ocean floor.</li> </ul>
Hazardous Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Negligible effects.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No significant harm to resources from hazardous materials would occur.</li> </ul>
Impact Conclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Less than significant impacts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Less than significant harm.</li> </ul>
<b>Alternative 1</b>		
Expended Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase in expended materials compared to No Action. Long-term, minor, and localized accumulation of expended materials on the ocean floor. Most materials inert.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase in expended materials compared to No Action Alternative. Long-term, minor, and localized accumulation of expended materials on the ocean floor. Most materials inert.</li> </ul>
Hazardous Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Negligible effects.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No significant harm to resources from hazardous materials would occur.</li> </ul>
Impact Conclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Less than significant impacts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Less than significant harm.</li> </ul>
<b>Alternative 2 (Preferred Alternative)</b>		
Expended Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase in expended materials compared to No Action. Long-term, minor, and localized accumulation of expended materials on the ocean floor. Most materials inert.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase in expended materials compared to No Action Alternative. Long-term, minor, and localized accumulation of expended materials on the ocean floor. Most materials inert.</li> </ul>
Hazardous Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Negligible effects.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No significant harm to resources from hazardous materials would occur.</li> </ul>
Impact Conclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Less than significant impacts.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Less than significant harm.</li> </ul>