
3.13 Environmental Justice and Protection of Children

3.13 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

3.13.1 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

For purposes of this Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Overseas EIS (Supplemental EIS/OEIS), the Region of Influence (ROI) for environmental justice and protection of children remains the same as that identified in the March 2011 Gulf of Alaska Navy Training Activities Final EIS/OEIS and includes the Temporary Maritime Activities Area (TMAA) (the Study Area).

3.13.1.1 Existing Conditions

As stated in the 2011 GOA Final EIS/OEIS, with the exception of Cape Cleare on Montague Island, which is located over 12 nautical miles (nm) from the northern point of the TMAA, the nearest shoreline (Kenai Peninsula) is located approximately 24 nm north of the TMAA's northern boundary. The approximate middle of the TMAA is located 140 nm offshore. The TMAA consists of open water surface and subsurface operating areas, and overlying airspace with no population centers present. Additionally, no new or additional United States Department of the Navy (Navy) training activities are being proposed in this Supplemental EIS/OEIS that would affect environmental justice or the protection of children. As such, the information and analysis regarding environmental justice and protection of children presented in the 2011 GOA Final EIS/OEIS is still valid.

3.13.2 ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS

All three alternatives (No Action Alternative, Alternative 1, and Alternative 2), as discussed in the 2011 GOA Final EIS/OEIS, remain the same for this Supplemental EIS/OEIS. The Navy conducted a review of existing federal and state regulations and standards relevant to environmental justice and protection of children, as well as a review of new literature, to include laws, regulations, and publications pertaining to environmental justice and protection of children. No additional information was found that indicates an appreciable change to the existing environmental conditions as described in the 2011 GOA Final EIS/OEIS. Because the existing conditions have not changed appreciably, and no new Navy training activities are being proposed to occur in the TMAA in this Supplemental EIS/OEIS, re-analysis of the alternatives with respect to environmental justice and protection of children is not warranted. Subsequently, the conclusions made for the alternatives analyzed in the 2011 GOA Final EIS/OEIS remain unchanged in this Supplemental EIS/OEIS.

3.13.3 CONCLUSION

As described above, there is no information on existing environmental conditions that changes the affected environment, which forms the environmental baseline of the environmental justice and protection of children analysis in the 2011 GOA Final EIS/OEIS. Additionally, no new Navy training activities are being proposed in this Supplemental EIS/OEIS that would affect environmental justice and protection of children in the TMAA. Therefore, conclusions for environmental justice and protection of children impacts made for the alternatives analyzed in the 2011 GOA Final EIS/OEIS remain unchanged in this Supplemental EIS/OEIS. For a summary of effects of the No Action Alternative, Alternative 1, and Alternative 2 on environmental justice and protection of children under both the National Environmental Policy Act and Executive Order 12114, please refer to Table 3.13-1 (Summary of Effects by Alternative) in the 2011 GOA Final EIS/OEIS.

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