



# GULF<sup>of</sup> ALASKA

NAVY TRAINING ACTIVITIES SUPPLEMENTAL EIS/OEIS

## MARINE SPECIES PROTECTION

**The Navy implements measures to reduce effects on marine species while training in the Gulf of Alaska.**

### SUPPORTING INDEPENDENT MARINE SPECIES RESEARCH

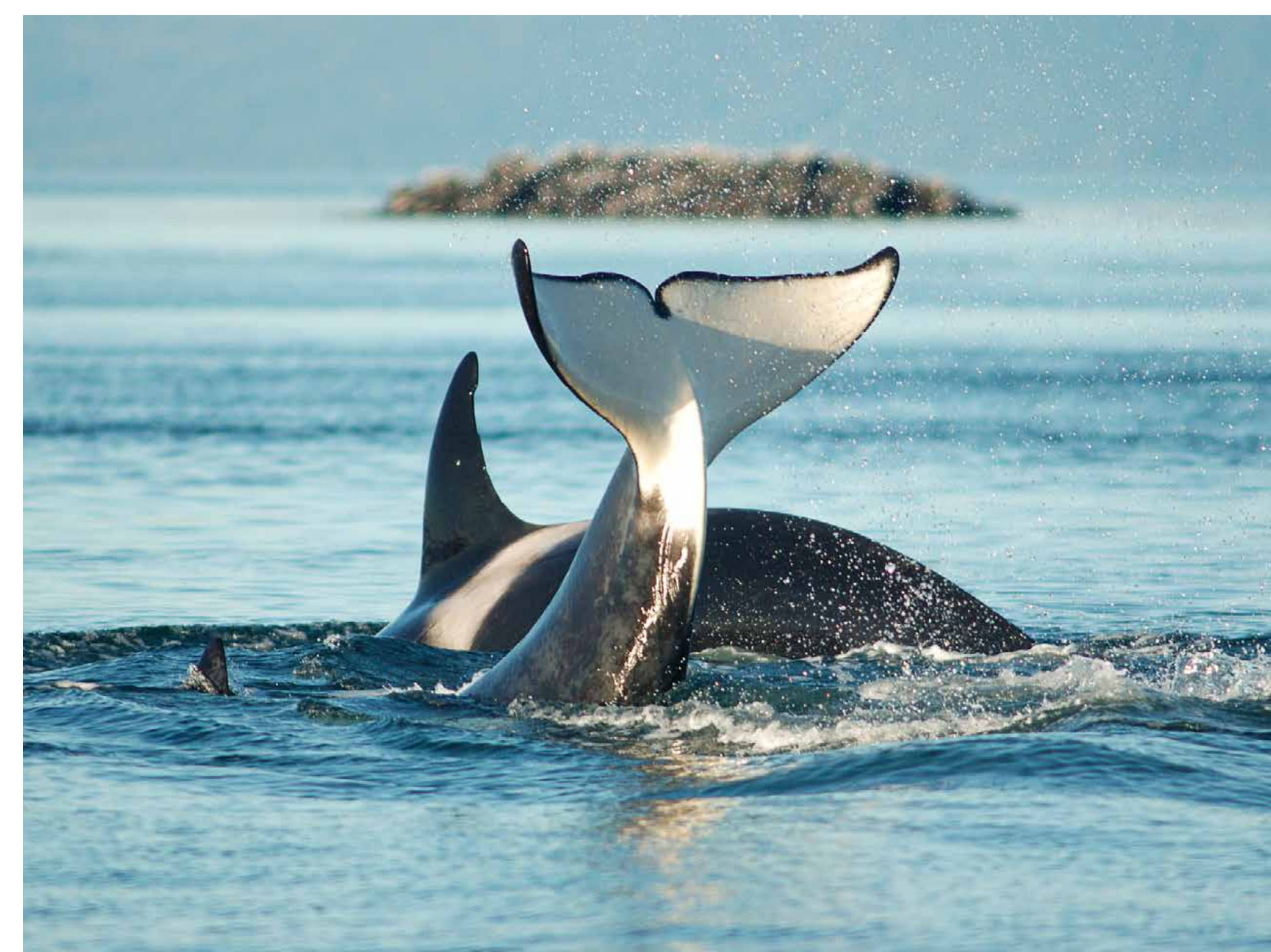
The Navy is a world leader in marine species research. For years, the Navy has funded research and partnered with universities and scientists to better understand the ocean environment.

#### PROTECTING MARINE SPECIES

- » Establish mitigation zones for marine species
- » Monitor zones before and during training
- » Post qualified Lookouts
- » Minimize interactions with marine mammals
- » Report monitoring results



**Since the 2011 Record of Decision, the Navy has monitored marine species in the Gulf of Alaska to better understand species occurrence.**



#### MONITORING MARINE MAMMAL POPULATIONS

Research and monitoring efforts conducted in Navy range complexes nationwide since 2006 indicate that long-term consequences on marine mammal populations from Navy activities would be unlikely for the following reasons:

- » Documented increases in the number of marine mammals present for multiple species
- » Observed continuous presence of marine mammal species and long-term residence by identified individual animals
- » Recorded use of training areas for marine mammal breeding, birthing and nursing
- » Lack of observable effects on marine mammal populations from over eight years of comprehensive monitoring and data collection