

**DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/  
OVERSEAS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT  
GULF OF ALASKA TRAINING ACTIVITIES**

**Lead Agency:** United States Department of the Navy  
**Cooperating Agency:** National Marine Fisheries Service  
**Title of the Proposed Action:** Gulf of Alaska Training Activities  
**Designation:** Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement

**Abstract**

The United States Department of the Navy (Navy) prepared this Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS)/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (OEIS) in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (42 United States Code section 4321 et seq.); the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations sections 1500 et seq. [2019]); Navy Procedures for Implementing NEPA (32 Code of Federal Regulations section 775); and Executive Order 12114, *Environmental Effects Abroad of Major Federal Actions*. This SEIS/OEIS was prepared to update the Navy's assessment of the potential environmental impacts associated with proposed military readiness activities to be conducted in the Gulf of Alaska (GOA). The activities are consistent with those activities analyzed in both the 2011 GOA Final EIS/OEIS and 2016 GOA Final SEIS/OEIS, and are representative of activities the Navy has been conducting in the Gulf of Alaska for decades. The Proposed Action is to conduct an annual exercise, historically referred to as Northern Edge, over a maximum time period of up to 21 consecutive days during the months of April to October.

This SEIS/OEIS evaluates the potential environmental impacts of conducting training activities upon the expiration of the current authorizations and consultations in 2022 in the GOA Temporary Maritime Activities Area (TMAA). The Study Area for this SEIS/OEIS is the TMAA only. Two alternatives were analyzed in this SEIS/OEIS:

- The No Action Alternative represents no Navy training activities at sea or in the airspace associated with the Proposed Action within the TMAA, and presents the resulting environmental effects from taking no action when compared with the effects of the Proposed Action.
- Alternative 1 is the Preferred Alternative. Alternative 1 is a Status Quo Alternative based on the 2016 GOA Final SEIS/OEIS and 2017 GOA Record of Decision. Though the types of activities and level of events are the same as in previous documents (Alternative 1 in both the 2011 GOA Final Environmental Impact Statement/OEIS and 2016 GOA Final SEIS/OEIS), there have been changes in the platforms and systems used as part of those activities (e.g., EA-6B aircraft and frigate, and their associated systems, have been replaced with the EA-18G, Littoral Combat Ship, and Destroyer). Consistent with the previous analysis for Alternative 1, the sinking exercise activities are not part of Alternative 1 for this SEIS/OEIS. In the TMAA, a Status Quo Alternative would allow the Navy to meet current and future training requirements necessary to achieve and maintain fleet readiness.

In this SEIS/OEIS, the Navy analyzed potential impacts on environmental resources resulting from activities under the No Action Alternative and Alternative 1. The resources evaluated include fishes, sea turtles, marine mammals, birds, and socioeconomic resources and environmental justice.

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