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Prepared by:

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**UNCLASSIFIED**

**2022**

**Northwest Training and Testing (NWTT)  
Study Area Annual Training Report**

**09 November 2021 through 08 November 2022  
Year 2**

**09 February 2023**

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# NORTHWEST TRAINING AND TESTING STUDY AREA ANNUAL TRAINING REPORT

## INTRODUCTION

The U.S. Navy prepared this unclassified version of the Annual Training Report covering the period from 09 November 2021 through 08 November 2022 in compliance with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Final Rule, Letter of Authorization (LOA), and Incidental Take Statements under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) and Endangered Species Act (ESA) authorizations for the U.S. Navy's Northwest Training and Testing (NWTT) Study Area. A classified version of this report is also submitted to NMFS.

In the NWTT Final Rule and Letter of Authorization<sup>1</sup>, the following report subsections were specified and are present within this report:

- (1) Summary of Sources Used
  - (i) Total annual hours or quantity of each bin of sonar or other transducers
  - (ii) Total annual expended/detonated ordnance (missiles, bombs, sonobuoys, etc.) for each explosive bin

The information in this report represents the best practical data collection for this period. Only unclassified information is present within this report.

The Letter of Authorization section 7(e) states the Navy will report additional details and sonar usage specific to the Mitigation Areas (MA) within NWTT. This information is present in section (2) of this report.

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<sup>1</sup>NWTT: 7(e) of the Letter of Authorization, and §218.145(e)(1) of the Final Rule.

## (1) NWTT – Summary of Sources Used

This section summarizes the total annual usage of each type of sound source used for training within NWTT from 09 November 2021 to 08 November 2022, which constitutes Year 2 of the 7-year authorization.

### (i) Total annual hours or quantity of each bin of sonar or other transducers

**Table 1-1. Annual Training Acoustic Source Usage within the NWTT Study Area by Source Bin**

Authorized sound sources from NWTT Final Rule		Authorized Amount (09 Nov 21-08 Nov 22)	Actual Usage (09 Nov 21-08 Nov 22)	% Used of Authorized Amount
<b>(i) Acoustic Sources Used During Annual Training</b>				
LF5	LF sources less than 180 dB	1 hour	*	*
MF1	Hull-mounted surface ship sonars (e.g. AN/SQS-53/60)	164 hours	*	*
MF3	Hull-mounted submarine sonars (e.g. AN/BQQ-10)	70 hours	*	*
MF4	Helicopter-deployed dipping sonars (e.g. AN/AQS-22)	1 hour	*	*
MF5	Active acoustic sonobuoys (e.g. DICASS)	926 count	*	*
MF11	Hull-mounted surface ship sonars with an active duty cycle greater than 80%	16 hours	*	*
HF1	Hull-mounted submarine sonars (e.g. AN/BQQ-10)	48 hours	*	*
HF4	Mine detection, classification, and neutralization sonar (e.g. AN/SQS-20)	65 hours	*	*
ASW2	MF Multistatic Active Coherent sonobuoy (e.g. AN/SSQ-125)	350 count	*	*
ASW3	MF towed acoustic countermeasure systems (AN/SLQ-25)	86 hours	*	*
ASW5	MF sonobuoys with high duty cycles	50 hours	*	*
TORP1	Lightweight torpedo (e.g. MK 46, MK 54, or Anti-Torpedo Torpedo)	16 count	*	*
TORP2	Heavyweight torpedo (e.g. MK 48)	2 count	*	*
FLS2	HF sources with short pulse lengths, narrow beam widths, and focused beam patterns	240 hours	*	*
M3	MF acoustic modems (greater than 190 dB)	30 hours	*	*
SAS2	HF SAS systems	561 hours	*	*

\*Information presented in the classified version of this report; usage did not exceed authorized amount.

### (ii) Total annual expended/detonated ordnance for each explosive bin

**Table 1-2. Annual Training Explosive Source Usage within the NWTT Study Area by Source Bin**

Authorized sound sources from NWTT Final Rule		Authorized Amount (09 Nov 21-08 Nov 22)	Actual Usage (09 Nov 21-08 Nov 22)	% Used of Authorized Amount
<b>(ii) Explosive Sources Used During Annual Training</b>				
E1	Medium-caliber projectile	120 detonations	0	0%
E2	Medium-caliber projectile	130 detonations	0	0%
E3	Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mine Neutralization	6 detonations	0	0%
E5	Large-caliber projectile	112 detonations	40	36%
E10	General purpose bomb / Air-to-surface missile	4 detonations	2**	50%

\*\*Explosive use reported under E10 bin authorization; actual use was E7 bin explosive.

**Table 1-3. 7-year Cumulative Training Sound Source Usage within the NWTT Study Area by Source Bin**

Sound Source Bin	Year 1 Actual Usage (09 Nov 20-08 Nov 21)	Year 2 Actual Usage (09 Nov 21-08 Nov 22)	7-yr Authorized Amount (09 Nov 20-08 Nov 27)	7-yr Cumulative Actual Usage (09 Nov 20-08 Nov 27)	% Used of 7-yr Authorized Amount
<b>(i) Acoustic Sources Used During Annual Training</b>					
LF5	*	*	5 hours	*	*
MF1	*	*	1,148 hours	*	*
MF3	*	*	490 hours	*	*
MF4	*	*	1 hour	*	*
MF5	*	*	6,443 count	*	*
MF11	*	*	112 hours	*	*
HF1	*	*	336 hours	*	*
HF4	*	*	269 hours	*	*
ASW2	*	*	2,450 count	*	*
ASW3	*	*	602 hours	*	*
ASW5	*	*	350 hours	*	*
TORP1	*	*	112 count	*	*
TORP2	*	*	5 count	*	*
FLS2	*	*	1,680 hours	*	*
M3	*	*	210 hours	*	*
SAS2	*	*	2,353 hours	*	*
<b>(ii) Explosive Sources Used During Annual Training</b>					
E1	120	0	672 detonations	120	18%
E2	14	0	728 detonations	14	2%
E3	1	0	42 detonations	1	2%
E5	0	40	628 detonations	40	6%
E10	2	2	9 detonations	4	44%

\*Information presented in the classified version of this report; usage did not exceed authorized amount.

## **(2) NWTT – Requirements Associated with Mitigation Areas**

This section contains details regarding specific requirements associated with seven mitigation areas within NWTT. These areas and requirements are delineated in §218.144(a)(2) of the Final Rule and Condition 6(2) of the Letter of Authorization.

### **(i) Marine Species Coastal Mitigation Area**

The Navy met all requirements for actions within 50 NM, 20 NM, and 12 NM from shore in accordance with paragraphs (6)(2)(i)(A), (B), (C), and (D) of the Letter of Authorization.

The use of surface ship hull-mounted MF1 mid-frequency active sonar within the combined boundaries of the Marine Species Coastal MA (20 NM), the Juan de Fuca Eddy Marine Species MA, and the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary MA did not exceed annual authorized levels. Actual amounts of sonar use in these areas were provided to the National Marine Fisheries Service in the classified version of this report.

### **(ii) Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary Mitigation Area**

The Navy met all requirements in accordance with paragraphs (6)(2)(ii)(A), (B), (C), (D), and (E) of the Letter of Authorization.

The use of surface ship hull-mounted MF1 mid-frequency active sonar within the boundaries of the Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary did not exceed annual authorized levels. Actual amounts of sonar use in this area were provided to the National Marine Fisheries Service in the classified version of this report.

**(iii) Juan de Fuca Eddy Marine Species Mitigation Area**

The Navy met all requirements in accordance with paragraphs (6)(2)(iii)(A), (B), and (C) of the Letter of Authorization.

**(iv) Stonewall and Heceta Bank Humpback Whale Mitigation Area**

The Navy met all requirements in accordance with paragraphs (6)(2)(iv)(A), (B), and (C) of the Letter of Authorization.

**(v) Point St. George Humpback Whale Mitigation Area**

The Navy met all requirements in accordance with paragraphs (6)(2)(v)(A), (B), and (C) of the Letter of Authorization.

**(vi) Northern Puget Sound Gray Whale Mitigation Area**

The Navy met all requirements in accordance with paragraphs (6)(2)(vi)(A) and (B) of the Letter of Authorization.

**(vii) Puget Sound and Strait of Juan de Fuca Mitigation Area**

The Navy met all requirements in accordance with paragraphs (6)(2)(vii)(A), (B), (C), (D), (E), (F), (G), and (H) of the Letter of Authorization.