

comments to five (5) minutes. Longer comments should be summarized at the public hearing and submitted in writing either at the hearing or mailed to the address listed at the end of this announcement. All written comments must be postmarked by June 19, 1995, to become part of the official record. The public hearing will be conducted in English, but the Navy will make every reasonable effort to accommodate requests for language interpreters or other special communication needs. Such requests must be made to the person listed below at least two days prior to the public hearings.

Additional information concerning this notice may be obtained by contacting: Mr. Will Sloger (Code 064WS), Southern Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, P.O. Box 190010, North Charleston, South Carolina 29419-9010, telephone (803) 743-0797.

Dated: May 9, 1995.

M.D. Schetzlsle,

LT, JAGC, USNR, Alternative Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Master Land Withdrawal Naval Air Station Fallon, Nevada

Pursuant to section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), the Department of the Navy announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the withdrawal of federally-owned lands around Naval Air Station (NAS) Fallon training ranges in Churchill County, Nevada.

The purpose of this action, termed Master Land Withdrawal, is to provide noise, safety, and off-range ordnance hazard buffers around training ranges. The need is based on the increased technological complexity of aerial training and the development and expansion of populated areas in the Fallon region over the last 50 years. The withdrawal footprint is based on the Department of Defense Range Air Installation Compatibility Use Zone (RAICUZ) study of 1982 and the NAS Fallon Range Hazard Analysis Mitigation Report of 1994. These reports define noise, safety, and land use compatibility zones to protect the public and the military users of the training ranges.

Located in the Lahontan Valley of Churchill County in the west central Nevada, NAS Fallon was transferred from the Army to the Navy in 1942. In 1953, NAS Fallon withdrew public lands for training ranges Bravo-16, Bravo-17, and Bravo-19. Due to technological advances in aircraft, weaponry, and training, public safety has become a concern around the training ranges. The proposed action would withdraw up to approximately 189,000 acres of additional land around the existing training ranges to provide safety and noise buffer zones. The Department of the Interior currently administers the lands proposed for withdrawal through the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Bureau of Reclamation (BUREC).

The mission of NAS Fallon is to provide realistic training and practice opportunities in the use of modern military equipment and tactics for military aircrews, primarily those of high performance jet fighters, strike-fighters, and electronic warfare support aircraft. The withdrawn lands are a critical resource for NAS Fallon in upholding its mission. The objectives of the proposed action are fourfold:

1. Meet training requirements for national defense.
2. Fulfill established operation and RAICUZ safety guidelines.
3. Facilitate protection of the public from off-range ordnance, and
4. Provide for continued public access to and safety on public lands adjacent to military withdrawals.

The proposed action would be consistent with the provisions of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), which defines withdrawal as "an area of Federal land withheld from settlement, sale, location, or entry, under some or all of the general land laws for the purpose of limiting activities under these laws in order to maintain public values in the area; or reserving the area for a particular public purpose or program; or transferring jurisdiction over an area of Federal land * * * from one department, bureau, or agency to another * * *" (43 U.S.C. 1701 section 103). The lands would be managed for military purposes, subject to valid existing rights, for a proposed term of 20 years. A Resource Management Plan will be developed for the withdrawn lands to provide for public safety by defining compatible public uses with military training operations.

Federal, state and local agencies, and interested individuals are encouraged to participate in a scoping process for the EIS. The purpose of the scoping process is to determine public issues and

concerns that need to be addressed in the document and to assess what additional information is available. Two public scoping meetings will be held to receive oral and written comments.

The first will be held in Reno, Nevada on June 6, 1995 at 7 p.m. at the Airport Plaza Hotel, 1981 Terminal Way. The second will be held in Fallon, Nevada on June 7, 1995 at 7 p.m. at the Fallon Convention Center, 100 Campus Way. In the interest of available time, each speaker will be asked to limit oral comments to five (5) minutes. In addition, written comments may be submitted by June 14, 1995, to Commanding Officer, Engineering Field Activity West, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, 900 Commodore Drive, San Bruno, CA 94066-5006 (Attention: Mr. Sam Dennis, Code 185SD); telephone (415) 244-3007, fax (415) 244-3737.

Dated: May 9, 1995.

M.D. Schetzlsle,

LT, JAGC, USNR, Alternative Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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Public Hearing for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Development of Facilities in San Diego to Support the Homeporting of One Nimitz Class Aircraft Carrier

Pursuant to section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), the Department of the Navy has prepared and filed with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) to comply with the 1993 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC III) directive from Congress to relocate ships currently homeported at Naval Air Station Alameda to fleet concentrations in San Diego and the Pacific Northwest. Affected ships include two NIMITZ class aircraft carriers, (CVNs), one of which will be realigned to San Diego and is the subject of the EIS.

A Notice of Intent (NOI) for this EIS was published in the **Federal Register** on July 27, 1993. A public scoping meeting for the proposed project was held on August 17, 1993, in Coronado, California. Due to revisions in the proposed action and new technical information, an NOI, which superseded all previous notices, was published in the **Federal Register** on December 28, 1994.

Pursuant to BRAC, the EIS will assess the potential environmental impacts