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## Appendix D: Public Participation



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## Appendix D Public Participation

This report summarizes the public involvement and stakeholder outreach activities conducted by the United States Navy (Navy) during the scoping period for the *Fallon Range Training Complex Modernization: Expansion of Land Ranges, Airspace Modifications, and Public Land Withdrawal Renewal Environmental Impact Statement*. The scoping period was held from Aug. 26, 2016, to Dec. 12, 2016. The purpose of public involvement was to notify and inform stakeholders and the public about the Proposed Action and to provide opportunities for the public to comment on the scope of the analysis, including environmental issues and potential viable alternatives. Outreach and involvement efforts were conducted in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act and Navy guidance.

### D.1 Project Website

A project website was established to provide the public with project information and to accept comments electronically. The project website went live on Aug. 26, 2016. The project notifications, fact sheet booklet, posters, informational maps, scoping meeting brief and audio file, frequently asked questions, and video were posted on the website. The website was periodically updated with project announcements, additional informational maps, and other updates.

The project website was established to provide the public with project information and to accept comments electronically. The project website address is [www.FRTCModernization.com](http://www.FRTCModernization.com). The website address was included in the *Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and To Announce Public Scoping Meetings*. It was also included in newspaper advertisements, agency letters, and postcards for the Notice of Intent and Notice of Scoping Meetings. The scoping fact sheet booklet, public notifications, maps, frequently asked questions, technical reports, informational videos, posters, and various other materials are available on the project website and will be updated and made available throughout the course of the project.

### D.2 Scoping Period

#### D.2.1 Public Scoping Notification

The Navy made significant efforts to notify the public to ensure maximum public participation during the scoping process. A summary of these efforts follows.

##### D.2.1.1 Federal Register Notices

The public scoping period began with issuance of a joint Notice of Intent and Notice of Scoping Meetings was published in the *Federal Register* on Aug. 26, 2016. The Bureau of Land Management published a Notice of Withdrawal Application in the *Federal Register* on Sept. 2, 2016. At the request of the public, the Navy extended the public scoping period to Dec. 12, 2016, and a Notice of Extension of Public Scoping Period was published in the *Federal Register* on Nov. 10, 2016. *Federal Register* notices can be found in Appendix A (Federal Register Notices).

**D.2.1.2 Newspaper Advertisements**

Display advertisements were placed in local newspapers to advertise the public’s opportunity to comment on the scope of the analysis. The advertisements included a description of the Proposed Action, the address of the project website, the duration of the comment period, and information on how to provide comments. The newspapers and publication dates are indicated in Table D-1. An example of the advertisement is shown in Figure D-1 and Figure D-2.

**Table D-1: Newspaper Publications for Scoping**

<b>Newspaper</b>	<b>Scoping Meeting Location and Date</b>	<b>Newspaper Coverage</b>	<b>Publication Dates</b>
Lahontan Valley News	Fallon (Oct. 3, 2016)	Fallon, Fernley, Lahontan Valley, and Highway 50 corridor	Friday, Aug. 26, 2016 Wednesday, Aug. 31, 2016 Friday, Sept. 16, 2016 Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2016 Friday, Sept. 23, 2016 Friday, Oct. 7, 2016
Lovelock Review-Miner	Lovelock (Oct. 4, 2016)	Pershing County, including Lovelock and Imlay	Wednesday, Aug. 31, 2016 Wednesday, Sept. 7, 2016 Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2016 Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2016 Wednesday, Sept. 28, 2016
Nevada Appeal	Reno (Oct. 4, 2016)	Reno and Carson City	Friday, Aug. 26, 2016 Saturday, Aug. 27, 2016 Sunday, Aug. 28, 2016 Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2016 Saturday, Oct. 1, 2016 Sunday, Oct. 2, 2016 Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2016 Thursday, Oct. 6, 2016 Friday, Oct. 7, 2016
Reno Gazette-Journal	Reno (Oct. 4, 2016)	Reno, Sparks, Spanish Springs, Fernley, Dayton, and Yerington	Friday, Aug. 26, 2016 Saturday, Aug. 27, 2016 Sunday, Aug. 28, 2016 Monday, Sept. 26, 2016 Sunday, Oct. 2, 2016 Monday, Oct. 3, 2016 Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2016
Battle Mountain Bugle	Austin (Oct. 5, 2016)	Lander County, including Austin	Wednesday, Aug. 31, 2016 Wednesday, Sept. 7, 2016 Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2016 Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2016 Wednesday, Sept. 28, 2016 Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2016


**Table D-1: Newspaper Publications for Scoping (continued)**

Newspaper	Scoping Meeting Location and Date	Newspaper Coverage	Publication Dates
Eureka Sentinel	Eureka (Oct. 6, 2016)	Eureka County	Thursday, Sept. 1, 2016 Thursday, Sept. 8, 2016 Thursday, Sept. 15, 2016 Thursday, Sept. 22, 2016 Thursday, Sept. 29, 2016 Thursday, Oct. 6, 2016
Mineral County Independent News	Hawthorne (Oct. 7, 2016)	Hawthorne, Walker Lake, Schurz, Mina, Luning, Montgomery Pass, and Marietta	Thursday, Sept. 1, 2016 Thursday, Sept. 8, 2016 Thursday, Sept. 15, 2016 Thursday, Sept. 22, 2016 Thursday, Sept. 29, 2016 Thursday, Oct. 6, 2016
Tonopah Times-Bonanza	Gabbs (Oct. 7, 2016)	Various areas throughout Nevada, including Gabbs and Nye Counties	Thursday, Sept. 1, 2016 Thursday, Sept. 8, 2016 Thursday, Sept. 15, 2016 Thursday, Sept. 22, 2016 Thursday, Sept. 29, 2016 Thursday, Oct. 6, 2016

A display advertisement announcing the public comment period extension was placed in the newspapers listed in Table D-2. An example of the advertisement is shown in Figure D-2.

**Table D-2: Newspaper Publications for Comment Period Extension**

Newspaper	Newspaper Coverage	Publication Dates
Battle Mountain Bugle	Lander County, including Austin	Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2016
Eureka Sentinel	Eureka County	Thursday, Nov. 17, 2016
Lahontan Valley News	Fallon, Fernley, Lahontan Valley, and Highway 50 corridor	Friday, Nov. 11, 2016 Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2016
Lovelock Review-Miner	Pershing County, including Lovelock and Imlay	Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2016
Mineral County Independent News	Hawthorne, Walker Lake, Schurz, Mina, Luning, Montgomery Pass, and Marietta	Thursday, Nov. 17, 2016
Nevada Appeal	Reno and Carson City	Friday, Nov. 11, 2016 Saturday, Nov. 12, 2016
Reno Gazette-Journal	Reno, Sparks, Spanish Springs, Fernley, Dayton, and Yerington	Friday, Nov. 11, 2016 Saturday, Nov. 12, 2016 Sunday, Nov. 13, 2016
Tonopah Times-Bonanza	Various areas throughout Nevada, including Gabbs and Nye counties	Thursday, Nov. 17, 2016



**The U.S. Navy  
INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE  
in the Fallon Range Training Complex Modernization  
Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Process**

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, the Navy is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to assess the potential environmental impacts of modernizing the Fallon Range Training Complex (located near Fallon, Nevada), which would include land range expansion through additional public land withdrawal and land acquisition, airspace modifications, and public land withdrawal renewal.

Modernization would provide the realistic training capabilities needed to meet changing aviation and ground training requirements, while maintaining and enhancing the safety and security of local communities.

**Public Involvement**

The Navy requests public input in identifying the scope of environmental issues and viable alternatives to be considered in the EIS. Comments will be accepted during the public scoping meetings, online at the website address below, or by mail to:

Naval Facilities  
Engineering  
Command Southwest  
Code EV21.AK  
1220 Pacific Highway  
Building 1, 5th Floor  
San Diego, CA 92132

**Comments must be postmarked or received online by Nov. 25, 2016, for consideration in the Draft EIS.**

**Public Scoping Meetings**


Each of the seven scoping meetings will begin with a brief presentation about the project, followed by an open house with information stations staffed by Navy representatives.

<p><b>Monday, Oct. 3, 2016 3 to 7 p.m.</b> Fallon Convention Center 100 Campus Way Fallon, NV 89406</p>	<p><b>Thursday, Oct. 6, 2016 5 to 7 p.m.</b> Eureka Elementary School Multi-Purpose Room 431 McCoy St. Eureka, NV 89316</p>
<p><b>Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2016 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.</b> Pershing County Community Center 820 Sixth St. Lovelock, NV 89419</p>	<p><b>Friday, Oct. 7, 2016 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.</b> Hawthorne Convention Center 950 E St. Hawthorne, NV 89415</p>
<p><b>Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2016 5 to 7 p.m.</b> Evelyn Mount Northeast Community Center 1301 Valley Road Reno, NV 89512</p>	<p><b>Friday, Oct. 7, 2016 5 to 7 p.m.</b> Gabbs School Gymnasium 511 E Ave. Gabbs, NV 89409</p>
<p><b>Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2016 5 to 7 p.m.</b> Emma Nevada Town Hall 135 Court St. Austin, NV 89310</p>	

For more information or to submit comments online,  
visit [www.FRTCMmodernization.com](http://www.FRTCMmodernization.com)

Figure D-1: Newspaper Announcement of Scoping





**Public Comment Period Extended for the  
Fallon Range Training Complex Modernization  
Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Process**

To allow for additional public input, the U.S. Navy has extended the public comment period for the Fallon Range Training Complex Modernization Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Public comments may now be submitted until **Dec. 12, 2016**, for consideration in the Draft EIS.

The Navy is preparing an EIS to assess the potential environmental impacts of modernizing the Fallon Range Training Complex (located near Fallon, Nevada). Modernization would include: 1) renewal of the Navy's current public land withdrawal, 2) the expansion of land ranges through the additional withdrawal of public lands and the acquisition of non-federal land, and 3) airspace modifications.

The proposed modernization would provide the realistic training capabilities needed to meet changing aviation and ground training requirements, while maintaining and enhancing the safety and security of local communities.

**Public Involvement**

The Navy requests public input in identifying the scope of environmental issues and viable alternatives to be considered in the EIS. Comments will be accepted online at the website address below, or by mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest  
Code EV21.AK  
1220 Pacific Highway  
Building 1, 5th Floor  
San Diego, CA 92132

**Comments must be postmarked or received online by Dec. 12, 2016, for consideration in the Draft EIS.**

For more information or to submit comments online,  
visit [www.FRTCMmodernization.com](http://www.FRTCMmodernization.com)

Figure D-2: Newspaper Announcement of Scoping Extension

### D.2.1.3 News Releases

Naval Air Station Fallon and the Bureau of Land Management distributed news releases to media outlets on Aug. 25, 2016, and Sept. 1, 2016, respectively. The news releases provided information on the public scoping meetings, Proposed Action, and how to submit comments. An example of the news release is shown in Figure D-3. The Naval Air Station Fallon media distribution list included:

- KOLO 8 News television, news@kolotv.com
- KRNV 4 News television, reno-krnv-feedback@sbgstv.com
- KTVN 2 News television, producers@ktvn.com
- Nevada Appeal newspaper, atrumble@nevadaappeal.com
- Reno Gazette-Journal newspaper, kscott@rgj.com
- Associated Press, ssonner@ap.org
- KNPB public broadcasting, tony@knpb.org
- NewsReview.com, bradb@newsreview.com



## News Release

Bureau of Lands Management, Nevada State Office

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: September 1, 2016

Contact: Lisa Ross, (775) 885-6107

### **Navy Applies To BLM To Expand Fallon Range Training Complex** *BLM Segregates 600,000 Acres While Navy Studies Extension, Expansion*

RENO, Nevada – The U.S. Navy has applied to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to continue to use the site of the Fallon Range Training Complex and to expand it to include more than 600,000 acres of additional public land. As a result of the Navy’s withdrawal application, the BLM has segregated the proposed expansion area from appropriation under the public land laws. The two-year segregation is obligatory while the Navy prepares an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on its expansion and extension proposals for the Fallon site about 65 miles east of Reno.

The Navy published a Federal Register notice on August 26 stating that it would conduct the EIS on both renewing the existing public land withdrawal, which covers 202,859 acres, and the withdrawal and reservation for military use of another 604,789 acres of public land to expand the existing range. The Navy’s authorization to use its existing acreage expires in 2021. Based on the environmental analysis, the Secretary of the Interior will make a recommendation to Congress on the proposed withdrawals. However, Congress, not the Secretary, will make the final decision on both the requested extension and proposed expansion.

As a first step in the EIS process, the Navy will hold seven public meetings on the proposed extension and expansion of the Fallon Range Training Complex. The BLM, the Federal Aviation Administration, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will participate as cooperating agencies in the preparation of the EIS. During the EIS, the Navy will consider existing uses of the lands. For instance, the Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service manage some of the lands. In addition, the Pony Express National Historic Trail, managed by the BLM and the National Park Service, runs through both the existing and proposed expansion areas. An expanded Fallon Range Training Complex would also overlap with portions of the Stillwater Range Wilderness Study Area (WSA), the Job Peak WSA, and the Clan Alpine Mountains WSA, which are all managed by the BLM. The U.S. Navy expansion would also overlap sage grouse habitat, the current Vegas to Reno Off-Highway Race course, numerous right-of-way corridors, and several grazing allotments. Current authorized uses of the lands can continue during the segregation.

The two-year segregation removes the expansion lands from all forms of appropriation under the public land laws, including the mining laws, the mineral leasing laws, and the geothermal leasing

Figure D-3: News Release for Scoping

laws. Valid existing rights at the time of the segregation will be honored. The action is require under section 204(b)(1) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. Much of the existing Fallon Range footprint is already withdrawn from these laws.

The entire Federal Register Notice for the Notice of Application for Withdrawal Extension and Withdrawal Expansion is available [here](#).

While the Navy will accept comments on its EIS, the BLM will accept comments on the requested withdrawal actions through the following methods:

- E-mail: [BLM\\_NV\\_FRTC@blm.gov](mailto:BLM_NV_FRTC@blm.gov)
- Fax: (775) 885-6147
- Mail: BLM Carson City District, Attn: NAS Fallon FRTC, 5665 Morgan Mill Road, Carson City, NV 89701

The following is a schedule of the Navy's public meetings on the proposed withdrawals:

- Fallon Convention Center, Fallon, 3-7 p.m. October 3;
- Pershing County Community Center, Lovelock, 11a.m.-1 p.m. October 4;
- Evelyn Mount Northeast Community Center, Reno, 5-7 p.m. October 4;
- Emma Nevada Town Hall, Austin, 5-7 p.m. October 5;
- Eureka Elementary School, Eureka, 5-7p.m. October 6;
- Hawthorne Convention Center, Hawthorne, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. October 7; and
- Gabbs School Gymnasium, Gabbs, 5-7 p.m. October 7.

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land, the most of any Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America's public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. In Fiscal Year 2015, the BLM generated \$4.1 billion in receipts from activities occurring on public lands.

BLM

**Figure D-3: News Release for Scoping (continued)**

#### **D.2.1.4 Notification Letters**

Stakeholder and tribal letters were mailed first-class on Aug. 25, 2016, to 26 federal, state, and local elected officials and government agencies, and via certified mail to tribal chairs of 17 federally recognized tribes and one intertribal council. A second tribal letter announcing the public comment period extension was sent via certified mail to the same tribal contacts. Entities that received the scoping notification letter can be found in Table D-3, and an example of a stakeholder letter is shown in Figure D-4. Tribal letters can be found in Appendix C (Tribal Correspondence).

**Table D-3: Entities that Received the Scoping Notification Letter**

<b><i>Federally Recognized Tribes and Tribal Groups</i></b>	
Battle Mountain Shoshone Duckwater Shoshone Tribe Elko Band Council Fallon Paiute- Shoshone Tribe Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribes Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada Lovelock Paiute Tribe Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe Reno-Sparks Indian Colony	South Fork Band Council Summit Lake Paiute Tribe Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone Indians of Nevada Walker River Paiute Tribe Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California Wells Band Council Winnemucca Indian Colony of Nevada Yerington Paiute Tribe Yomba Shoshone Tribe
<b><i>Federal Elected Officials and Federal Agencies</i></b>	
U.S. Senators U.S. Representatives (Nevada Districts 2, and 4) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance	
<b><i>State Elected Officials and State Agencies</i></b>	
Governor Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Nevada Department of Transportation Nevada Department of Wildlife Nevada State Historic Preservation Office	
<b><i>Local Elected Officials and Local Agencies</i></b>	
City of Fallon Mayor City of Lovelock Mayor City of Reno Mayor City of Winnemucca Mayor Churchill County District 2 Crescent Valley Town Advisory Board Elko County District 3 Eureka County Board of Commissioners Lander County District 5 Lyon County District 4 Mineral County Commission Nye County District 1 Pershing County Board of Commissioners Storey County Board of Commissioners Tonopah Town Board Washoe County District 3	



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
NAVAL AIR STATION FALLON  
4755 PASTURE ROAD  
FALLON, NV 89496-5000

5090  
Ser N0000CF/0150  
August 25, 2016

Ms. Rebecca Palmer  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Nevada State Historic Preservation Office  
901 S. Stewart St., Suite 5004  
Carson City, NV 89701

Dear Ms. Palmer,

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF INTENT TO PREPARE AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND TO ANNOUNCE PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS FOR THE FALLON RANGE TRAINING COMPLEX MODERNIZATION: EXPANSION OF LAND RANGES, AIRSPACE MODIFICATIONS, AND PUBLIC LAND WITHDRAWAL RENEWAL

This letter is to inform you that the Commander, United States (U.S.) Pacific Fleet (PACFLT) is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to assess the potential environmental impacts of proposed modernization of the Fallon Range Training Complex (FRTC), located in northern Nevada. This proposed modernization would include expanding land ranges, modifying airspace, and renewing public land withdrawals. The Department of the Navy (Navy) is seeking public input and involvement, which are important to the development of an EIS under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

The FRTC is the Navy's premier aviation training range. It includes land training ranges and Special Use Airspace in northern Nevada, approximately 65 miles east of the city of Reno. The current FRTC bombing ranges have not changed substantially in size or configuration since the 1990s, or earlier in many cases. However, warfare technology has continued to change. In response to these changes, the Navy conducted a training capabilities study. This study concluded that the FRTC's training capabilities currently do not, and, in the future, will not meet the real-world needs of the U.S. military. Therefore, to address these shortcomings, the Navy proposes to modernize and expand the FRTC's land ranges, airspace, and infrastructure. The proposed modernization would also enhance the safety and security of local and regional populations and infrastructure.

The Navy proposes to:

- Renew 202,859 acres of existing public land withdrawal that expires in November 2021;
- Withdraw and reserve for military use approximately 604,789 acres of additional public land to expand existing land ranges;

Figure D-4: Stakeholder Scoping Notification Letter

5090  
Ser N0000CF/0150  
August 25, 2016

- Acquire approximately 65,160 acres of non-federal land to expand existing land ranges;
- Expand associated Special Use Airspace and reconfigure existing airspace;
- Conduct the same general types and tempos of aviation and ground training as analyzed in Alternative 2 of the *2015 Military Readiness Activities at Fallon Range Training Complex, Nevada, Final Environmental Impact Statement*; and
- Upgrade range infrastructure to support expansion and modernization.

#### Environmental Analysis

The EIS will include an analysis of potential impacts on environmental resource areas including: soils; air quality/climate; water resources and quality; airborne noise; biological resources; land use and recreation; socioeconomics, environmental justice, and protection of children; transportation; cultural resources; Native American traditional resources; and public health and safety. Your input in identifying other specific issues and resource areas that should be assessed in the EIS will greatly aid our analysis. The EIS will also address the cumulative impacts of the direct and indirect effects of past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions on the human environment. No decisions about the Proposed Action or any real estate actions would be taken until this EIS effort is complete. The Bureau of Land Management, the Federal Aviation Administration, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will participate as cooperating agencies in the preparation of the EIS.

#### Scoping Process

A 90-day scoping period will be open from August 26, 2016, through November 25, 2016. During this time, we welcome any comments you may have regarding the proposed project.

The Navy is holding a series of meetings to discuss the project and to determine the type and scope of issues to be addressed in the EIS. Each of the seven scoping meetings will begin with a brief presentation about the project, followed by an open house with information stations staffed by Navy representatives.

Seven open house information sessions will be held:

1. Monday, October 3, 2016, 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Fallon Convention Center, 100 Campus Way, Fallon, NV 89406.
2. Tuesday, October 4, 2016, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Pershing County Community Center, 820 6th Street, Lovelock, NV 89419.
3. Tuesday, October 4, 2016, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Evelyn Mount Northeast Community Center, 1301 Valley Road, Reno, NV 89512.
4. Wednesday, October 5, 2016, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Emma Nevada Town Hall, 135 Court Street, Austin, NV 89310.
5. Thursday, October 6, 2016, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Eureka Elementary School Multi-Purpose Room, 431 McCoy Street, Eureka, NV 89316.



5090  
Ser N0000CF/0150  
August 25, 2016

6. Friday, October 7, 2016, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Hawthorne Convention Center, 950 E Street, Hawthorne, NV 89415.

7. Friday, October 7, 2016, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Gabbs School Gymnasium, 511 E Avenue, Gabbs, NV 89409.

The Navy requests and welcomes comments. Comments may be submitted at the scoping meetings, online at [www.FRTCModernization.com](http://www.FRTCModernization.com), or via postal mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest  
Code EV21.AK  
1220 Pacific Highway  
Building 1, 5th Floor  
San Diego, CA 92132

Comments must be postmarked by November 25, 2016. All timely comments will be considered in preparation of the Draft EIS.

The Navy would welcome the opportunity to schedule a presentation with your office on this project. If you would like to schedule a meeting, please contact Mr. Robert Rule, Naval Air Station Fallon Community Planner, at [robert.rule@navy.mil](mailto:robert.rule@navy.mil) or 775-426-2925. For more information about the project, please visit [www.FRTCModernization.com](http://www.FRTCModernization.com).

Sincerely,



DAVID HALLORAN  
Captain, U.S. Navy  
Commanding Officer

#### **D.2.1.5 Postcard Mailers**

A postcard mailer providing information on the public scoping meetings, the Proposed Action, and how to submit comments was mailed first-class to 589 tribal staff, individuals, landowners, and organizations on Aug. 25, 2016. A second postcard mailer announcing the public comment period extension was mailed first-class on Nov. 14, 2016, to 700 elected officials, government agencies, tribal staff, individuals, landowners, and organizations. An example of the postcard and postcard extension is shown in Figure D-5 and Figure D-6.

The postcard features a yellow header with the title 'FALLON RANGE TRAINING COMPLEX MODERNIZATION EIS' and the Commander United States Pacific Fleet logo. Below the header, there are two logos: NAS Fallon Nevada and NAWDC. The main body of the postcard is divided into two columns. The left column contains text about the EIS process and a call to action: 'THE NAVY WELCOMES YOUR INPUT!'. Below this, it lists ways to participate, including online at www.FRTCModernization.com and mail to Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest. The right column is titled 'PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS' and lists seven dates and locations for public meetings. At the bottom, a blue banner states that comments must be postmarked or received online by Nov. 25, 2016. There are two small images: one of fighter jets on a runway and one of a soldier in a helmet.

**COMMANDER**  
UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET

## FALLON RANGE TRAINING COMPLEX MODERNIZATION EIS

The U.S. Navy invites you to participate in the National Environmental Policy Act scoping process for the *Fallon Range Training Complex Modernization: Expansion of Land Ranges, Airspace Modifications, and Public Land Withdrawal Renewal Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)*.

The Navy is preparing an EIS to assess the potential environmental impacts of modernizing the Fallon Range Training Complex (located near Fallon, Nevada), which would include land range expansion through additional public land withdrawal and land acquisition, airspace modifications, and public land withdrawal renewal.

**THE NAVY WELCOMES YOUR INPUT!**

**You can participate in several ways:**

- Find more information and submit comments online at: [www.FRTCModernization.com](http://www.FRTCModernization.com)
- Attend a public scoping meeting to learn more and submit comments
- Mail written comments to:  
Naval Facilities Engineering  
Command Southwest  
Code EV21.AK  
1220 Pacific Highway  
Building 1, 5th Floor  
San Diego, CA 92132

**PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS**

Each of the seven scoping meetings will begin with a brief presentation about the project, followed by an open house with information stations staffed by Navy representatives.

**Monday, Oct. 3, 2016, 3 to 7 p.m.**  
Fallon Convention Center  
100 Campus Way  
Fallon, NV 89406

**Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2016, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.**  
Pershing County Community Center  
820 Sixth St.  
Lovelock, NV 89419

**Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2016, 5 to 7 p.m.**  
Evelyn Mount Northeast  
Community Center  
1301 Valley Road  
Reno, NV 89512

**Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2016, 5 to 7 p.m.**  
Emma Nevada Town Hall  
135 Court St.  
Austin, NV 89310

**Thursday, Oct. 6, 2016, 5 to 7 p.m.**  
Eureka Elementary School  
Multi-Purpose Room  
431 McCoy Street  
Eureka, NV 89316

**Friday, Oct. 7, 2016, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.**  
Hawthorne Convention Center  
950 E St.  
Hawthorne, NV 89415

**Friday, Oct. 7, 2016, 5 to 7 p.m.**  
Gabbs School Gymnasium  
511 E Ave.  
Gabbs, NV 89409

**Comments must be postmarked or received online by Nov. 25, 2016, for consideration in the Draft EIS.**

Figure D-5: Postcard Mailer for Scoping (Front)



**The Navy requests your input in identifying the scope of environmental issues and viable alternatives to be considered in the EIS.**

**PROPOSED ACTION**  
The Navy's Proposed Action is to modernize the Fallon Range Training Complex, which would include land range expansion through additional public land withdrawal and land acquisition, airspace modifications, and public land withdrawal renewal.

Modernization would provide the realistic training capabilities needed to meet changing aviation and ground training requirements, while maintaining and enhancing the safety and security of local communities.

*Visit [www.FRTCModernization.com](http://www.FRTCModernization.com) for more information or to submit comments online.*

Naval Facilities Engineering  
Command Southwest  
Code EV21.AK  
1220 Pacific Highway  
Building 1, 5th Floor  
San Diego, CA 92132

Figure D-5: Postcard Mailer for Scoping (Back)

The image is a postcard mailer for the Fallon Range Training Complex Modernization EIS. It features a header with the title and logos for the Commander, United States Pacific Fleet, NAS Fallon Nevada, and NAWDC. The main text announces that the public comment period has been extended to December 12, 2016, and provides information on how to submit comments, including a list of ways to participate and a mailing address. A photograph of a military vehicle is included in the bottom right corner.

**COMMANDER**  
UNITED STATES PACIFIC FLEET

**FALLON RANGE TRAINING COMPLEX  
MODERNIZATION EIS**

**NAS FALLON NEVADA**

**NAWDC**

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD EXTENDED**

To allow for additional public input, the U.S. Navy has extended the public comment period for the *Fallon Range Training Complex Modernization: Expansion of Land Ranges, Airspace Modifications, and Public Land Withdrawal Renewal Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)*. Public comments may now be submitted until **Dec. 12, 2016**.

**THE NAVY WELCOMES YOUR INPUT!**

You can participate in several ways:

- Find more information and submit comments online at: **[www.FRTCMmodernization.com](http://www.FRTCMmodernization.com)**
- Mail written comments to:  
Naval Facilities Engineering  
Command Southwest  
Code EV21.AK  
1220 Pacific Highway  
Building 1, 5th Floor  
San Diego, CA 92132

The Navy is preparing an EIS to assess the potential environmental impacts of modernizing the Fallon Range Training Complex (located near Fallon, Nevada). Modernization would include: 1) renewal of the Navy's current public land withdrawal, 2) the expansion of land ranges through the additional withdrawal of public lands and the acquisition of non-federal land, and 3) airspace modifications.

**Comments must be postmarked or received online by Dec. 12, 2016, for consideration in the Draft EIS.**

Figure D-6: Postcard Mailer for Scoping Extension (Front)

The Navy requests your input in identifying the scope of environmental issues and viable alternatives to be considered in the EIS.

#### PROPOSED ACTION

The Navy's Proposed Action is to modernize the Fallon Range Training Complex. Modernization would include:

- Renewal of current public land withdrawal
- Land range expansion through additional withdrawal of public lands and acquisition of non-federal land
- Airspace modifications

The proposed modernization would provide the realistic training capabilities needed to meet changing aviation and ground training requirements, while maintaining and enhancing the safety and security of local communities.

Visit [www.FRTCModernization.com](http://www.FRTCModernization.com) for more information or to submit comments online.

Naval Facilities Engineering  
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Code EV21.AK  
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Figure D-6: Postcard Mailer for Scoping Extension (Back)

### D.3 Summary of Scoping Meetings and Topics Discussed

Scoping comments were submitted in three ways:

- Written letters (received any time during the public comment period)
- Comments submitted at a scoping meeting (written or oral)
- Comments submitted directly on the project website (received any time during the public comment period)

In total, 338 people attended seven public scoping meetings. Twenty-one written comment letters and 15 oral comments were submitted at the meetings.

Table D-4 reflects the number of attendees and the number of verbal and written comment letters received at each scoping meeting. Media attendance reflects the persons who identified themselves as media. Topics reflect the key points discussed with subject matter experts or provided as a written or oral comment at the scoping meetings.

**Table D-4: Summary of Scoping Meetings**

Site	Attendance	Oral Comments	Comment Letters
<b>Fallon</b> Monday, Oct. 3, 2016	129	8	10
<b>Media Attendance:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Channel 2</li> <li>• Channel 8</li> <li>• Lahontan Valley News</li> <li>• Progressive Rancher Magazine</li> </ul>			
<b>Topics Discussed:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grazing allotments and management of grazing lands that could be lost as a result of the proposed withdrawal</li> <li>• Private property with improvements on Bravo-20</li> <li>• Request for maps displaying townships and ranges</li> <li>• Access to private parcels in Bravo-20</li> <li>• Request for alternate routes through Bravo-20 and Bravo-16</li> <li>• Noise concerns from Naval Air Station Fallon and overflight noise</li> <li>• Fires from military training (Who provides firefighting services and restoration? Who pays?)</li> <li>• Impacts on water and water resources</li> <li>• Concerns about the potential public access closure of Dixie Valley Training Area</li> <li>• Access to hunting sites (primarily in Dixie Valley Training Area and Bravo-17)</li> <li>• Access to geothermal sites</li> <li>• Impacts on tarantula migration</li> <li>• Off-highway vehicle use and impacts from closing of the ranges</li> <li>• Impacts on mineral and mining claims and investments</li> <li>• Compensation for grazing lands, water, and investments that could be lost as a result of the proposed withdrawal</li> <li>• Potential impacts on bighorn sheep</li> <li>• Potential impacts on sage grouse and sage grouse habitats</li> <li>• Bravo-17 property claims issues (from previous Bravo-17 withdrawal); potential for compensation by the Navy</li> </ul>			

Table D-4: Summary of Scoping Meetings (continued)

Site	Attendance	Oral Comments	Comment Letters
<b>Attendees:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Churchill County</li> <li>• Churchill County Democrats</li> <li>• Churchill County Farm Bureau</li> <li>• Churchill Economic Development Authority</li> <li>• City of Fallon</li> <li>• Eureka County</li> <li>• Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe</li> <li>• Lyon County Sheriff's Office Mayor of Yerington</li> </ul>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mining claim holders</li> <li>• Nevada Cattlemen's Association</li> <li>• Nevada Department of Wildlife</li> <li>• Nevada Farm Bureau</li> <li>• Nevada Trappers Association</li> <li>• Nevada Waterfowl Association</li> <li>• Ranchers</li> <li>• Fallon Tea Party</li> <li>• Walker River Paiute Tribe Residents and interested individuals</li> </ul>			
Site	Attendance	Oral Comments	Comment Letters
<b>Lovelock</b> Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2016	16	0	1
<b>Media Attendance:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Winnemucca Publishing Company</li> </ul>			
<b>Topics Discussed:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Socioeconomic impacts and Payments in Lieu of Taxes</li> <li>• Possible conflict of Bravo-20 expansion and Pershing County Economic Plan</li> <li>• Impacts on mineral and mining claims and investments</li> <li>• Railway Spur Development through Bravo-20</li> </ul>			
<b>Attendees:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lovelock Paiute Tribe</li> <li>• Pershing County</li> <li>• Pershing Gold Corporation</li> <li>• Residents and interested individuals</li> </ul>			
Site	Attendance	Oral Comments	Comment Letters
<b>Reno</b> Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2016	52	1	3
<b>Media Attendance:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reno Gazette-Journal</li> <li>• Channel 4</li> <li>• Progressive Rancher Magazine</li> </ul>			
<b>Topics Discussed:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grazing allotments and management of grazing lands that could be lost as a result of the requested withdrawal; request for a grazing allotment map</li> <li>• Request for alternate routes through Bravo-20 and Bravo-16</li> <li>• Impacts on water and water rights</li> <li>• Concerns about eminent domain at Bravo-20</li> <li>• Concerns about lack of cooperating agencies</li> <li>• Request to post the Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan on website</li> <li>• Access to hunting sites (primarily in Dixie Valley Training Area and Bravo -17)</li> <li>• Off-highway vehicle use and impacts from closing of the ranges</li> <li>• Concerns regarding impacts on mineral and mining claims</li> </ul>			



Table D-4: Summary of Scoping Meetings (continued)

Site	Attendance	Oral Comments	Comment Letters
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Navy compensation for grazing lands, water, and investments that could be lost as a result of the proposed withdrawal; also Payments in Lieu of Taxes</li> <li>Non-Navy oversight of Navy biological resource management</li> <li>Requests for GIS (Geographic Information System) data</li> <li>Request for analysis of possibility of multi-use of the expanded areas</li> <li>No public notice for miners</li> <li>Request by Lovelock-Paiute for access to archaeological sites and natural areas</li> </ul>			
<b>Attendees:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coalition for Nevada’s Wildlife</li> <li>Elko Mining Group</li> <li>Friends of Nevada Wilderness</li> <li>Geological Society of Nevada</li> <li>Great Basin Resource Watch</li> <li>Miners</li> <li>Nevada Bighorns Unlimited</li> <li>Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology</li> <li>Nevada Commission on Off-highway Vehicles</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nevada Division of Minerals</li> <li>Nevada Division of Water Resources</li> <li>Nevada Farm Bureau</li> <li>Nevada Mineral Exploration Coalition</li> <li>Nevada Waterfowl Association</li> <li>Nevada Wildlife Alliance</li> <li>New Nevada Resources</li> <li>Grace Potorti (prior Rural Alliance for Military Accountability)</li> <li>Residents and interested individuals</li> </ul>	
Site	Attendance	Oral Comments	Comment Letters
<b>Austin</b> Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2016	22	1	1
<b>Media Attendance:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>			
<b>Topics Discussed:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grazing allotments and management of grazing lands that could be lost as a result of the proposed withdrawal</li> <li>Minerals and geothermal development impacts</li> <li>Sonic boom and noise impacts</li> <li>Cultural impacts</li> <li>Socioeconomic impacts on airport</li> <li>Secondary effects on property values</li> </ul>			
<b>Attendees:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Congressman Mark Amodei staff</li> <li>Duckwater Shoshone Tribe</li> <li>Nye County Commissioner</li> <li>Lander County</li> <li>Ranchers</li> <li>Senator Dean Heller staff</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Toiyabe Guns</li> <li>Town of Kingston</li> <li>University of Florida</li> <li>Yomba Shoshone Tribe</li> <li>Residents and interested individuals</li> </ul>	

Table D-4: Summary of Scoping Meetings (continued)

Site	Attendance	Oral Comments	Comment Letters
<b>Eureka</b> Thursday, Oct. 6, 2016	13	3	1
<b>Media Attendance:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>			
<b>Topics Discussed:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grazing allotments and management of grazing lands that could be lost as a result of the proposed withdrawal</li> <li>• Minerals and geothermal development impacts</li> <li>• Sonic boom and noise impacts</li> <li>• Impacts on sage grouse from low-flying aircraft</li> <li>• Socioeconomic impacts of sale of lands</li> </ul>			
<b>Attendees:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eureka County Commission</li> <li>• Eureka County School District</li> <li>• National Cattlemen’s Beef Association</li> <li>• Ranchers/farmers</li> <li>• Sheriff</li> <li>• Residents and interested individuals</li> </ul>			
Site	Attendance	Oral Comments	Comment Letters
<b>Hawthorne</b> Friday, Oct. 7, 2016	33	0	4
<b>Media Attendance:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Desert Report Magazine</li> <li>• Mineral County Independent News</li> </ul>			
<b>Topics Discussed:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concerns about the Navy’s response time from public phone line; request to insert language on the website about phone call return time</li> <li>• Concerns about Poinsettia geothermal plant</li> <li>• Access to water by animals (local and migratory)</li> <li>• Concerns about the increased area needed for public safety</li> <li>• Concerns that hazardous areas (from bombs and chemicals) would increase</li> <li>• I-11 corridor and impacts from modernization effort</li> <li>• Chem-trails and dispersal of hazardous materials</li> <li>• Payments in Lieu of Taxes reduction</li> <li>• Access to off-highway vehicle areas</li> <li>• Request for assistance in funding main Town Meeting Hall (USO building)</li> <li>• Concerns regarding disproportional economic benefits in comparison with other counties</li> <li>• Potential impacts on bighorn sheep</li> <li>• Potential impacts on hunting</li> <li>• Reno-to-Vegas race course access</li> <li>• Tourism impacts</li> <li>• Request for the Navy to look into Nellis Air Force Base as an alternative site</li> </ul>			
<b>Attendees:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hawthorne Airport (KHTH)</li> <li>• Mineral County</li> <li>• NCH/EI Capitan (Lodge &amp; Casino)</li> <li>• Walker River Paiute Tribe</li> <li>• Residents and interested individuals</li> </ul>			

Table D-4: Summary of Scoping Meetings (continued)

Site	Attendance	Oral Comments	Comment Letters
<b>Gabbs</b> Friday, Oct. 7, 2016	73	2	1
<b>Media Attendance:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tonopah Times</li> </ul>			
<b>Topics Discussed:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grazing allotments and management of grazing lands that could be lost as a result of the proposed withdrawal</li> <li>• Concerns that hazardous areas (from bombs and chemicals) would increase</li> <li>• Concerns regarding disproportional economic benefits in comparison with other counties</li> <li>• Cumulative impacts from other proposed military expansions nearby (i.e., Nellis Air Force Base)</li> </ul>			
<b>Attendees:</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Best in the Desert Racing</li> <li>• Gabbs School</li> <li>• Yomba Shoshone Tribe</li> <li>• Residents and interested individuals</li> </ul>			

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