
Appendix E: Public Participation

Environmental Impact Statement

Fallon Range Training Complex Modernization

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Appendix E Public Participation

This appendix includes a summary of the public involvement and stakeholder outreach activities conducted by the United States (U.S.) Department of the Navy (Navy) during the scoping period and the public review and comment period for the Draft Fallon Range Training Complex Modernization Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The scoping period was held from August 26, 2016, to December 12, 2016. The Draft EIS was released for public review November 16, 2018, for a 60-day public comment period. The public comment period was extended by an additional 30 days, to close February 14, 2019.

The purpose of public involvement during the public scoping period was to (1) notify and inform stakeholders and the public about the Proposed Action; and (2) provide opportunities for the public to comment on the scope of the analysis, including environmental issues and potential viable alternatives. The purpose of public involvement during the public review and comment period of the Draft EIS was to (1) notify and inform stakeholders and the public about the Proposed Action and the release of the Draft EIS, and (2) provide the opportunity for the public and stakeholders to comment on the Draft EIS.

Outreach and involvement efforts were conducted in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act and Navy guidance.

E.1 Project Website

A project website was established to provide the public with project information and to accept comments electronically. The project website address is <https://www.FRTCMmodernization.com>; the website went live August 26, 2016.

The website address was included in the *Federal Register* Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement and To Announce Public Scoping Meetings and the *Federal Register* Notice of Public Meetings. It was also included in newspaper advertisements, stakeholder letters, tribal letters, media releases, public service announcements, fliers, and postcard mailers.

Public notifications, fact sheets, the executive summary of the Draft EIS, maps, frequently asked questions, technical reports, a project video, posters, and various other informational materials are available on the project website and will be available throughout the course of the project.

E.2 Scoping Period

E.2.1 Public Scoping Notifications

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

E.2.1.1 Federal Register Notices

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

E.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 listed in Table E-1. An example of the advertisement is shown in Figure E-1.

Table E-1: Newspaper Publications for Scoping

Newspaper	Scoping Meeting Location and Date	Newspaper Coverage	Publication Dates
<i>Lahontan Valley News</i>	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
<i>Lovelock Review-Miner</i>	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
<i>Nevada Appeal</i>	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
<i>Reno Gazette-Journal</i>	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
<i>Battle Mountain Bugle</i>	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 E-1: Newspaper Publications for Scoping (continued)

Newspaper	Scoping Meeting Location and Date	Newspaper Coverage	Publication Dates
<i>Eureka Sentinel</i>	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
<i>Mineral County Independent News</i>	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
<i>Tonopah Times-Bonanza</i>	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 E-2. An example of the advertisement is shown in Figure E-2.

Table E-2: Newspaper Publications for the Comment Period Extension

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

<p><u>Public Involvement</u></p> <p>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:</p> <p>Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest Code EV21.AK 1220 Pacific Highway Building 1, 5th Floor San Diego, CA 92132</p> <p>Comments must be postmarked or received online by Nov. 25, 2016, for consideration in the Draft EIS.</p>	<p><u>Public Scoping Meetings</u></p> <p>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> <table border="1"> <tr> <td> <p>Monday, Oct. 3, 2016 3 to 7 p.m. Fallon Convention Center 100 Campus Way Fallon, NV 89406</p> </td> <td> <p>Thursday, Oct. 6, 2016 5 to 7 p.m. Eureka Elementary School Multi-Purpose Room 431 McCoy St. Eureka, NV 89316</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <p>Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2016 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pershing County Community Center 820 Sixth St. Lovelock, NV 89419</p> </td> <td> <p>Friday, Oct. 7, 2016 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Hawthorne Convention Center 950 E St. Hawthorne, NV 89415</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <p>Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2016 5 to 7 p.m. Evelyn Mount Northeast Community Center 1301 Valley Road Reno, NV 89512</p> </td> <td> <p>Friday, Oct. 7, 2016 5 to 7 p.m. Gabbs School Gymnasium 511 E Ave. Gabbs, NV 89409</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <p>Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2016 5 to 7 p.m. Emma Nevada Town Hall 135 Court St. Austin, NV 89310</p> </td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	<p>Monday, Oct. 3, 2016 3 to 7 p.m. Fallon Convention Center 100 Campus Way Fallon, NV 89406</p>	<p>Thursday, Oct. 6, 2016 5 to 7 p.m. Eureka Elementary School Multi-Purpose Room 431 McCoy St. Eureka, NV 89316</p>	<p>Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2016 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pershing County Community Center 820 Sixth St. Lovelock, NV 89419</p>	<p>Friday, Oct. 7, 2016 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Hawthorne Convention Center 950 E St. Hawthorne, NV 89415</p>	<p>Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2016 5 to 7 p.m. Evelyn Mount Northeast Community Center 1301 Valley Road Reno, NV 89512</p>	<p>Friday, Oct. 7, 2016 5 to 7 p.m. Gabbs School Gymnasium 511 E Ave. Gabbs, NV 89409</p>	<p>Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2016 5 to 7 p.m. Emma Nevada Town Hall 135 Court St. Austin, NV 89310</p>	
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<p>Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2016 5 to 7 p.m. Emma Nevada Town Hall 135 Court St. Austin, NV 89310</p>									

For more information or to submit comments online,
visit www.FRTCMmodernization.com

Figure E-1: Newspaper Announcement for 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.FRTCModernization.com**

Figure E-2: Newspaper Announcement for Scoping Comment Period Extension

E.2.1.3 News Releases

Naval Air Station Fallon and the Bureau of Land Management distributed news releases to media outlets August 25, 2016, and September 1, 2016, respectively. The news releases provided information on the public scoping meetings, Proposed Action, and how to submit comments. An example of the Navy's news release is shown in Figure E-3, and the Bureau of Land Management news release is shown in Figure E-4. The Naval Air Station Fallon media distribution list included the following media outlets.

- KOLO 8 News television, news@kolotv.com
- KRNV 4 News television, reno-krnv-feedback@sbgvtv.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



**NAVAL AIR
STATION
FALLON**

Zip Upham, Public Affairs Officer
4755 Pasture Road, Fallon, NV 89496
Phone: (775) 426-2880

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Aug. 25, 2016

**NAVY TO PREPARE FALLON RANGE TRAINING COMPLEX MODERNIZATION
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

FALLON, Nev. — The U.S. Navy is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, to evaluate potential environmental effects associated with modernization of the Fallon Range Training Complex. The Fallon Range Training Complex is the Navy's premier aviation training complex. It is located in the high desert of northern Nevada, 65 miles east of the city of Reno.

The Navy proposes to modernize the Fallon Range Training Complex, which would include land range expansion through additional land withdrawal and land acquisition, airspace modifications, and public land withdrawal renewal. The modernization is required because advances in warfare technology have outpaced the size and configuration of the ranges, hindering the Navy from fully sustaining realistic aviation and ground training.

The Navy's proposed action includes renewal of the existing 202,859-acre public land withdrawal that expires on Nov. 5, 2021; the withdraw and reserve for military use of approximately 604,789 acres of additional public land; acquisition of approximately 65,160 acres of non-federal land; expansion of associated Special Use Airspace, as well as reconfiguration of existing airspace; and modification of range infrastructure to support modernization. The aviation and ground training to be conducted in the modernized Fallon Range Training Complex would be of the same general types and at the same tempos analyzed in Alternative 2 of the Final EIS for Military Readiness Activities at Fallon Range Training Complex, Nevada (completed in December 2015).

The Bureau of Land Management, the Federal Aviation Administration, and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service will participate as cooperating agencies in the preparation of the EIS.

Figure E-3: Navy News Release for Scoping

As part of the environmental evaluation, and in accordance with federal regulations, the Navy is seeking public input to identify community concerns, potential viable alternatives, and environmental issues for analysis in the EIS. Open house information sessions will be held at the following locations:

- Monday, Oct. 3, 2016, 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Fallon Convention Center, 100 Campus Way, Fallon, NV 89406.
- Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2016, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Pershing County Community Center, 820 6th Street, Lovelock, NV 89419.
- Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2016, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Evelyn Mount Northeast Community Center, 1301 Valley Road, Reno, NV 89512.
- Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2016, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Emma Nevada Town Hall, 135 Court Street, Austin, NV 89310.
- Thursday, Oct. 6, 2016, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Eureka Elementary School Multi-Purpose Room, 431 McCoy Street, Eureka, NV 89316.
- Friday, Oct. 7, 2016, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Hawthorne Convention Center, 950 E Street, Hawthorne, NV 89415.
- Friday, Oct. 7, 2016, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Gabbs School Gymnasium, 511 E Avenue, Gabbs, NV 89409.

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

Comments pertaining to the U.S. Navy's proposed action and/or environmental issues should be sent to: Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest; Attention: Code EV21.AK; 1220 Pacific Highway; Building 1, 5th Floor; San Diego, CA 92132, or submitted online at www.FRTCModernization.com.

Additional information is also available at www.FRTCModernization.com. All written comments must be postmarked or received online by **Friday, Nov. 25, 2016**, to be considered in the Draft EIS.

Figure E-3: Navy News Release for Scoping (continued)



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 E-4: Bureau of Land Management News Release for Scoping

laws. Valid existing rights at the time of the segregation will be honored. The action is required 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
- 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, 11 a.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, 5-7 p.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 E-4: Bureau of Land Management News Release for Scoping (continued)

E.2.1.4 Notification Letters

Stakeholder and tribal notification letters were mailed first-class August 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 E-3, and an example of a stakeholder letter is shown in Figure E-5. Tribal letters can be found in Appendix C (Tribal Correspondence).

Table E-3: Entities that Received the Scoping Notification Letters

<i>Federally Recognized Tribes and Tribal Groups</i>	
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
<i>Federal Elected Officials and Federal Agencies</i>	
U.S. Senators U.S. Representatives (Nevada Districts 2 and 4) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance	
<i>State Elected Officials and State Agencies</i>	
Governor Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Nevada Department of Transportation Nevada Department of Wildlife Nevada State Historic Preservation Office	
<i>Local Elected Officials and Local Agencies</i>	
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 E-5: Stakeholder Scoping Notification Letter

5090
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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.

Figure E-5: Stakeholder Scoping Notification Letter (continued)

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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.FRTCTModernization.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 or 775-426-2925. For more information about the project, please visit www.FRTCTModernization.com.

Sincerely,



DAVID HALLORAN
Captain, U.S. Navy
Commanding Officer

Figure E-5: Stakeholder Scoping Notification Letter (continued)

E.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 August 25, 2016. A second postcard mailer announcing the public comment period extension was mailed first-class November 14, 2016, to 700 elected officials, government agencies, tribal staff, individuals, landowners, and organizations. Examples of the two postcard mailers are shown in Figure E-6 and Figure E-7.



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
- 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




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



FALLON RANGE TRAINING COMPLEX MODERNIZATION EIS



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.FRTCModernization.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 E-7: Postcard Mailer for Scoping Comment Period 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 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 E-7: Postcard Mailer for Scoping Comment Period Extension (Back)

E.3 Summary of the 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 E-4 reflects the number of attendees and the number of oral 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 E-4: Summary of the Scoping Meetings

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

E.4 Draft Environmental Impact Statement Public Review and Comment Period

E.4.1 Draft Environmental Impact Statement Public Review and Comment Period Notifications

The Navy made significant efforts to notify the public of the release of the Draft EIS and the dates and locations of public meetings to maximize participation during the public review and comment period process. A summary of these efforts follows.

E.4.1.1 Federal Register Notices

A Notice of Public Meetings was published in the *Federal Register* November 15, 2018, and a Notice of Availability of the Draft EIS was published in the *Federal Register* November 16, 2018. At the request of the public, the Navy extended the public comment period to February 14, 2019, and a notice announcing the extension of the public review and comment period was published in the *Federal Register* December 27, 2018. *Federal Register* notices can be found in Appendix A (Federal Register Notices).

E.4.1.2 Newspaper Advertisements

Display advertisements were placed in local newspapers to advertise the notice of availability of the Draft EIS, the public meetings, and the public review and comment period. The advertisements included a description of the Proposed Action, the public meeting dates and locations, 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 listed in Table E-5. An example of the advertisement is shown in Figure E-8.


Table E-5: Newspaper Publications for the Draft EIS Availability and Public Meetings

Newspaper	Public Meeting Location and Date	Newspaper Coverage	Publication Dates
<i>Lahontan Valley News</i>	Fallon (Dec. 12, 2018)	Fallon, Fernley, Lahontan Valley, and Highway 50 corridor	Wednesday, Nov. 21, 2018 Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2018 Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2018
<i>Lovelock Review-Miner</i>	Lovelock (Dec. 13, 2018)	Pershing County, including Lovelock and Imlay	Wednesday, Nov. 21, 2018 Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2018 Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2018
<i>Nevada Appeal</i>	Reno (Dec. 13, 2018)	Reno and Carson City	Saturday, Nov. 17, 2018 Wednesday, Nov. 21, 2018 Saturday, Nov. 24, 2018 Saturday, Dec. 1, 2018 Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2018 Saturday, Dec. 8, 2018 Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2018
<i>Reno Gazette-Journal</i>	Reno (Dec. 13, 2018)	Reno, Sparks, Spanish Springs, Fernley, Dayton, and Yerington	Saturday, Nov. 17, 2018 Sunday, Nov. 18, 2018 Monday, Nov. 19, 2018 Friday, Nov. 30, 2018 Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018 Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2018 Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018
<i>Battle Mountain Bugle</i>	Austin (Dec. 11, 2018)	Lander County, including Austin	Wednesday, Nov. 21, 2018 Wednesday, Nov. 28, 2018 Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2018
<i>Eureka Sentinel</i>	Eureka (Dec. 11, 2018)	Eureka County	Thursday, Nov. 22, 2018 Thursday, Nov. 29, 2018 Thursday, Dec. 6, 2018
<i>Mineral County Independent News</i>	Hawthorne (Dec. 10, 2018)	Hawthorne, Walker Lake, Schurz, Mina, Luning, Montgomery Pass, and Marietta	Thursday, Nov. 22, 2018 Thursday, Dec. 6, 2018
<i>Tonopah Times-Bonanza</i>	Gabbs (Dec. 10, 2018)	Various areas throughout Nevada, including Gabbs and Nye Counties	Thursday, Nov. 22, 2018 Thursday, Nov. 29, 2018 Thursday, Dec. 6, 2018

A display advertisement announcing the extension of the public comment period was placed in the newspapers listed in Table E-6. An example of the advertisement is shown in Figure E-9.

Table E-6: Newspaper Publications Comment Period Extension

Newspaper	Newspaper Coverage	Publication Dates
<i>Battle Mountain Bugle</i>	Lander County, including Austin	Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2019
<i>Eureka Sentinel</i>	Eureka County	Thursday, Jan. 3, 2019
<i>Lahontan Valley News</i>	Fallon, Fernley, Lahontan Valley, and Highway 50 corridor	Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2019
<i>Lovelock Review-Miner</i>	Pershing County, including Lovelock and Imlay	Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2019
<i>Mineral County Independent News</i>	Hawthorne, Walker Lake, Schurz, Mina, Luning, Montgomery Pass, and Marietta	Thursday, Jan. 3, 2019
<i>Nevada Appeal</i>	Reno and Carson City	Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2019 Saturday, Jan. 5, 2019
<i>Reno Gazette-Journal</i>	Reno, Sparks, Spanish Springs, Fernley, Dayton, and Yerington	Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2019 Thursday, Jan. 3, 2019 Friday, Jan. 4, 2019
<i>Tonopah Times-Bonanza</i>	Various areas throughout Nevada, including Gabbs and Nye counties	Thursday, Jan. 3, 2019



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

The U.S. Navy has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to assess the potential environmental impacts of the proposed modernization of the Fallon Range Training Complex. Modernization would include: 1) renewal of the Navy's current public land withdrawal, 2) land range expansion through the additional withdrawal of public lands and the acquisition of non-federal land, 3) airspace expansion and modifications, and 4) upgrades to range infrastructure. The proposed modernization would provide more realistic training capabilities while maintaining the safety of local communities.

<p><u>Public Involvement</u></p> <p>The Navy welcomes your review and comments on the Draft EIS. Comments will be accepted during the public meetings, online at the website address below, or by mail to:</p> <p>Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest Code EV21.SG 1220 Pacific Highway Building 1, 5th Floor San Diego, CA 92132</p> <p>Comments must be postmarked or received online by Jan. 15, 2019, for consideration in the Final EIS.</p>	<p><u>Public Meetings</u></p> <p>Each meeting will include informational poster stations, a brief Navy presentation starting at the beginning of the second hour, followed by a public oral comment session.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td> <p>Monday, Dec. 10, 2018 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Hawthorne Convention Center 932 E St. Hawthorne, NV 89415</p> </td> <td> <p>Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2018 5 to 8 p.m. Fallon Convention Center 100 Campus Way Fallon, NV 89406</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <p>Monday, Dec. 10, 2018 5 to 8 p.m. Gabbs School Gymnasium 511 E Ave. Gabbs, NV 89409</p> </td> <td> <p>Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. C Punch Inn and Casino Kumiva Room 1420 Cornell Ave. Lovelock, NV 89419</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <p>Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Austin Town Hall 135 Court St. Austin, NV 89310</p> </td> <td> <p>Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018 5 to 8 p.m. West 2nd Events Center 600 W. 2nd St. Reno, NV 89503</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td> <p>Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018 5 to 8 p.m. Eureka Opera House Grand Hall 31 S. Main St. Eureka, NV 89316</p> </td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	<p>Monday, Dec. 10, 2018 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Hawthorne Convention Center 932 E St. Hawthorne, NV 89415</p>	<p>Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2018 5 to 8 p.m. Fallon Convention Center 100 Campus Way Fallon, NV 89406</p>	<p>Monday, Dec. 10, 2018 5 to 8 p.m. Gabbs School Gymnasium 511 E Ave. Gabbs, NV 89409</p>	<p>Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. C Punch Inn and Casino Kumiva Room 1420 Cornell Ave. Lovelock, NV 89419</p>	<p>Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Austin Town Hall 135 Court St. Austin, NV 89310</p>	<p>Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018 5 to 8 p.m. West 2nd Events Center 600 W. 2nd St. Reno, NV 89503</p>	<p>Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018 5 to 8 p.m. Eureka Opera House Grand Hall 31 S. Main St. Eureka, NV 89316</p>	
<p>Monday, Dec. 10, 2018 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Hawthorne Convention Center 932 E St. Hawthorne, NV 89415</p>	<p>Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2018 5 to 8 p.m. Fallon Convention Center 100 Campus Way Fallon, NV 89406</p>								
<p>Monday, Dec. 10, 2018 5 to 8 p.m. Gabbs School Gymnasium 511 E Ave. Gabbs, NV 89409</p>	<p>Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. C Punch Inn and Casino Kumiva Room 1420 Cornell Ave. Lovelock, NV 89419</p>								
<p>Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Austin Town Hall 135 Court St. Austin, NV 89310</p>	<p>Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018 5 to 8 p.m. West 2nd Events Center 600 W. 2nd St. Reno, NV 89503</p>								
<p>Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018 5 to 8 p.m. Eureka Opera House Grand Hall 31 S. Main St. Eureka, NV 89316</p>									

For more information visit www.FRTCMmodernization.com

Figure E-8: Newspaper Announcement of the Draft EIS Availability and Public Meetings



Public Comment Period Extended for the Fallon Range Training Complex Modernization Draft Environmental Impact Statement

The U.S. Navy has extended the public comment period by an additional 30 days for the Fallon Range Training Complex Modernization Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Public comments may now be submitted until **Feb. 14, 2019**, for consideration in the Final EIS.

The U.S. Navy prepared a Draft EIS to assess the potential environmental impacts of modernizing the Fallon Ranges. Modernization would include: 1) renewal of the Navy's current public land withdrawal, 2) land range expansion through the additional withdrawal of public lands and the acquisition of non-federal land, 3) airspace expansion and modifications, and 4) upgrades to range infrastructure.

The proposed modernization would provide more realistic training capabilities while maintaining the safety of local communities.

Public Involvement

The Navy welcomes your comments on the Draft EIS. Comments will be accepted online at the website address below, or by mail to:

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

Comments must be postmarked or received online by **Feb. 14, 2019**, for consideration in the Final EIS.

For more information or to submit comments online,
visit www.FRTCModernization.com

Figure E-9: Newspaper Announcement of the Comment Period Extension for the Draft EIS

E.4.1.3 News Releases and Public Service Announcements

Naval Air Station Fallon distributed news releases to regional media outlets November 16, 2018, and December 6, 2018. The news releases provided information on the public meetings, Proposed Action, and how to submit comments. A news release was disseminated December 27, 2018, announcing the extension of the Draft EIS public review and comment period. A public service announcement announcing the public meetings was also distributed December 6, 2018. Examples of the news releases are shown in Figure E-10, Figure E-11, and Figure E-12; and examples of the public service announcement are shown in Figure E-13. The Naval Air Station Fallon media distribution list included the following media outlets:

- KOLO 8 News television, stanton.tang@kolotv.com, news@kolotv.com
- KRNv 4 News television, jpgoodwin@MyNews4.com, reno-krnv-feedback@sbgvtv.com
- KTVN 2 News television, producers@ktvn.com
- *Desert Companion*, andrew@desertcompanion.com
- *Nevada Appeal* newspaper, atrumble@nevadaappeal.com
- *Reno Gazette-Journal* newspaper, news@rgj.com, kscott@rgj.com
- Associated Press, ssonner@ap.org
- KNPB public broadcasting, tony@knpb.org
- NewsReview.com, bradb@newsreview.com
- *Lahontan Valley News*, sranson@lahontanvalleynews.com, snmgmilitaryeditor@gmail.com
- *Sparks Tribune*, sparkstribune.eric@gmail.com
- *Reno Gannett*, bspillman@reno.gannett.com
- *Carson Valley Times*, editor@carsonvalleytimes.com
- KNPR Desert Companion, andrew@desertcompanion.com, joes@knpr.org
- *Nevada Business Journal*, tarah@nevadabusiness.com
- Northern Nevada Business View, info@nnbw.biz
- *The Record Courier*, sdrinkwine@recordcourier.com
- *The Nevada Independent*, daniel@thenvindy.com
- Reno Media Group, info@renomediagroup.com, info@renomediagroup.com
- KKOH Radio, news@kkoh.com
- KUNR NPR, news@kunr.org



**NAVAL AIR
STATION
FALLON**

Zip Upham, Public Affairs Officer
4755 Pasture Road, Fallon, NV 89496
Phone: (775) 426-2280

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nov. 16, 2018

**NAVY FALLON RANGE TRAINING COMPLEX MODERNIZATION DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT STATEMENT AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW; PUBLIC MEETINGS TO BE HELD**

FALLON, Nev. — The U.S. Navy has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to assess the potential environmental impacts of the proposed modernization of the Fallon Range Training Complex, located in northern Nevada. The document is now available for public review and comment, and the Navy will hold seven public meetings throughout northern Nevada to inform the public about the proposal and the results of the environmental impact analysis.

Proposed Action

The Navy's proposal to modernize the Fallon Ranges would include:

- Renewal of the Navy's current public land withdrawal
- Land range expansion through additional withdrawal of public lands and acquisition of non-federal land
- Airspace expansion and modifications
- Upgrades to range infrastructure

The Navy is not proposing to change the level or type of training from what is stated in the 2015 Military Readiness Activities Fallon Range Training Complex EIS. Activities would be redistributed across the expanded ranges for more efficient use of the training space. No decisions about the proposed modernization would be made or any real estate actions taken until the EIS effort is complete.

Figure E-10: News Release for the Notice of the Draft EIS Availability and Public Meetings

About the Fallon Range Training Complex

The Fallon Range Training Complex is the Navy's premier aviation training range, supporting aviation and ground training, including live-fire training. The Navy trains 100 percent of deploying naval aviation and naval special warfare units at the Fallon Ranges. The current bombing ranges have not changed substantially in size or configuration since the 1990s. However, newer-generation aircraft and weapons have outpaced the current capabilities of the Fallon Ranges.

In response to technological and tactical advancements, the Navy conducted a comprehensive analysis, referred to as the *Ninety Days to Combat* study, to determine the land and airspace needed to meet combat training requirements for modern aircraft and weapons systems. The analysis showed that the current size of the Fallon Ranges severely restricts the extent the Navy can use its weapons systems to train for combat. The proposed modernization would provide more realistic training capabilities while maintaining the safety of local communities.

Public Involvement

The Navy will be holding seven public meetings to provide information and to give the public an opportunity to comment on the Draft EIS. Public meetings will include an open-house information session, during which time Navy representatives will be available to provide information and answer questions. A brief Navy presentation and public oral comment session will occur at approximately the beginning of the second hour of the meetings. Written and oral comments will be accepted at each public meeting.

The public meeting schedule is as follows:

Date: Monday, Dec. 10, 2018, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Location: Hawthorne Convention Center
932 E St.
Hawthorne, NV 89415

Date: Monday, Dec. 10, 2018, 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Gabbs School Gymnasium
511 E Ave.
Gabbs, NV 89409

Date: Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Location: Austin Town Hall
135 Court St.
Austin, NV 89310

Figure E-10: News Release for the Notice of the Draft EIS Availability and Public Meetings (continued)

Date: Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018, 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Eureka Opera House, Grand Hall
31 S. Main St.
Eureka, NV 89316

Date: Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2018, 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Fallon Convention Center
100 Campus Way
Fallon, NV 89406

Date: Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Location: C Punch Inn and Casino, Kumiva Room
1420 Cornell Ave.
Lovelock, NV 89419

Date: Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018, 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: West 2nd Events Center
600 W. 2nd St.
Reno, NV 89503

Comments pertaining to the Navy's proposed modernization or the draft environmental analysis can also be submitted online at www.FRTCModernization.com or sent to:

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

Additional information is also available at www.FRTCModernization.com. All written comments must be postmarked or received online by **Tuesday, Jan. 15, 2019**, to be considered in the Final EIS.

- USN -

Figure E-10: News Release for the Notice of the Draft EIS Availability and Public Meetings (continued)



**NAVAL AIR
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FALLON**

Zip Upham, Public Affairs Officer
4755 Pasture Road, Fallon, NV 89496
Phone: (775) 426-2880

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dec. 6, 2018

**NAVY TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETINGS FOR FALLON RANGE TRAINING COMPLEX
MODERNIZATION DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

FALLON, Nev. — The U.S. Navy will be holding seven public meetings throughout northern Nevada to inform the public about the proposed modernization of the Fallon Range Training Complex and the results contained in a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The Navy prepared the Draft EIS to assess the potential environmental impacts of the proposed modernization of the Fallon Ranges, located in northern Nevada. Modernization would include: 1) renewal of the Navy's current public land withdrawal, 2) land range expansion through the additional withdrawal of public lands and the acquisition of non-federal land, 3) airspace expansion and modifications 4) upgrades to range infrastructure. The Draft EIS was made available for public review and comment on Nov. 16, 2018; the public comment period is open through Jan. 15, 2019.

Public Involvement

The Navy will be holding seven public meetings to provide information and to give the public an opportunity to comment on the Draft EIS. Public meetings will include an open-house information session, during which time Navy representatives will be available to provide information and answer questions. A brief Navy presentation and public oral comment session will occur at approximately the beginning of the second hour of the meetings. Written and oral comments will be accepted at each public meeting.

The public meeting schedule is as follows:

Date: Monday, Dec. 10, 2018, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Location: Hawthorne Convention Center
932 E St.
Hawthorne, NV 89415

Figure E-11: News Release for the Notice of the Draft EIS Public Meetings

Date: Monday, Dec. 10, 2018, 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Gabbs School Gymnasium
511 E Ave.
Gabbs, NV 89409

Date: Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Location: Austin Town Hall
135 Court St.
Austin, NV 89310

Date: Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018, 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Eureka Opera House, Grand Hall
31 S. Main St.
Eureka, NV 89316

Date: Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2018, 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Fallon Convention Center
100 Campus Way
Fallon, NV 89406

Date: Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Location: C Punch Inn and Casino, Kumiva Room
1420 Cornell Ave.
Lovelock, NV 89419

Date: Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018, 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: West 2nd Events Center
600 W. 2nd St.
Reno, NV 89503

Comments pertaining to the Navy's proposed modernization or the draft environmental analysis can also be submitted online at www.FRTCModernization.com or sent to:

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

Additional information is also available at www.FRTCModernization.com. All written comments must be postmarked or received online by **Tuesday, Jan. 15, 2019**, to be considered in the Final EIS.

About the Fallon Range Training Complex

The Fallon Range Training Complex is the Navy's premier aviation training range, supporting aviation and ground training, including live-fire training. The Navy trains 100 percent of deploying

Figure E-11: News Release for the Notice of the Draft EIS Public Meetings (continued)

naval aviation and naval special warfare units at the Fallon Ranges. The current bombing ranges have not changed substantially in size or configuration since the 1990s. However, newer-generation aircraft and weapons have outpaced the current capabilities of the Fallon Ranges.

In response to technological and tactical advancements, the Navy conducted a comprehensive analysis, referred to as the *Ninety Days to Combat* study, to determine the land and airspace needed to meet combat training requirements for modern aircraft and weapons systems. The analysis showed that the current size of the Fallon Ranges severely restricts the extent the Navy can use its weapons systems to train for combat. The proposed modernization would provide more realistic training capabilities while maintaining the safety of local communities.

- USN -

Figure E-11: News Release for the Notice of the Draft EIS Public Meetings (continued)



**NAVAL AIR
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Phone: (775) 426-2280

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dec. 27, 2018

**PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT PERIOD EXTENDED FOR THE FALLON RANGE TRAINING
COMPLEX MODERNIZATION DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

FALLON, Nev. — The U.S. Navy has extended the public review and comment period by an additional 30 days for the Fallon Range Training Complex Modernization Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to allow additional time for the submission of public comments. Comments may now be submitted until **Feb. 14, 2019**, for consideration in the Final EIS.

The Navy prepared the Draft EIS to assess the potential environmental impacts of the proposed modernization of the Fallon Ranges, located in northern Nevada. Modernization would include: 1) renewal of the Navy's current public land withdrawal, 2) land range expansion through the additional withdrawal of public lands and the acquisition of non-federal land, 3) airspace expansion and modifications 4) upgrades to range infrastructure.

All written comments must be postmarked or received online by **Thursday, Feb. 14, 2019**, for consideration in the Final EIS. All comments submitted during the comment period will become part of the public record and substantive comments will be responded to in the Final EIS. Comments pertaining to the Navy's proposed modernization or the draft environmental analysis can be submitted online at www.FRTCModernization.com or sent to:

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

Figure E-12: News Release for the Comment Period Extension for the Draft EIS

To review the Draft EIS and for additional information, please visit the project website at www.FRTCModernization.com. The Draft EIS is also available at the following public libraries:

Austin Branch Library
88 Main St.
Austin, NV 89310

Carson City Library
900 N. Roop St.
Carson City, NV 89701

Churchill County Library
553 S. Maine St.
Fallon, NV 89406

Crescent Valley Branch Library
5045 Tenabo Ave.
Crescent Valley, NV 89821

Downtown Reno Library
301 S. Center St.
Reno, NV 89501

Eureka Branch Library
80 S. Monroe St.
Eureka, NV 89316

Fernley Branch Library
575 Silver Lace Blvd.
Fernley, NV 89408

Gabbs Community Library
602 Third St.
Gabbs, NV 89409

Mineral County Library
110 First St.
Hawthorne, NV 89415

Pershing County Library
1125 Central Ave.
Lovelock, NV 89419

Yerington Branch Library
20 Nevin Way
Yerington, NV 89447

Additional information is available at www.FRTCModernization.com.

- USN -

Figure E-12: News Release for the Comment Period Extension for the Draft EIS (continued)



**NAVAL AIR
STATION
FALLON**

Zip Upham, Public Affairs Officer
4755 Pasture Road, Fallon, NV 89496
Phone: (775) 426-2280

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dec 6, 2018

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT (30 Seconds)

Public Meetings for the Fallon Range Training Complex Draft Environmental Impact Statement

ANNOUNCER:

THE U-S NAVY INVITES YOU TO ATTEND PUBLIC MEETINGS TO LEARN ABOUT AND COMMENT ON THE POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE FALLON RANGE TRAINING COMPLEX MODERNIZATION ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT.

THE PUBLIC MEETINGS, CONSISTING OF AN OPEN HOUSE AND BRIEF NAVY PRESENTATION, FOLLOWED BY A PUBLIC ORAL COMMENT SESSION, WILL TAKE PLACE ON: *(Select appropriate location)*

- DECEMBER TENTH FROM TEN A-M TO ONE P-M AT THE HAWTHORNE CONVENTION CENTER
- DECEMBER TENTH FROM FIVE P-M TO EIGHT P-M AT THE GABBS SCHOOL GYMNASIUM
- DECEMBER ELEVENTH FROM TEN A-M TO ONE P-M AT THE AUSTIN TOWN HALL
- DECEMBER ELEVENTH FROM FIVE P-M TO EIGHT P-M AT THE EUREKA OPERA HOUSE GRAND HALL
- DECEMBER TWELFTH FROM FIVE P-M TO EIGHT P-M AT THE FALLON CONVENTION CENTER
- DECEMBER THIRTEENTH FROM TEN A-M TO ONE P-M AT THE LOVELOCK C PUNCH INN AND CASINO KUMIVA ROOM
- DECEMBER THIRTEENTH FROM FIVE P-M TO EIGHT P-M AT THE RENO WEST SECOND EVENTS CENTER

YOU CAN LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROJECT AND PROVIDE COMMENTS AT THE PUBLIC MEETINGS OR AT W-W-W DOT F-R-T-C MODERNIZATION DOT COM.

Figure E-13: Public Service Announcement for the Draft EIS Public Meetings

E.4.1.4 Notification Letters

Stakeholder and tribal notification letters were mailed first-class November 7, 2018, to 108 federal, state, and local elected officials; government agencies; and tribal staff. These letters were also sent via certified mail to the tribal chairpersons of 17 federally recognized tribes and one intertribal council. A second tribal letter announcing the public review and comment period extension was sent via certified mail to the same federally recognized tribes December 28, 2018. In addition, e-mails announcing the extension of the public review and comment period were sent to cooperating agencies and tribal participants December 28, 2018. Entities that received the notification letter can be found in Table E-7, and an example of a stakeholder letter is shown in Figure E-14. Tribal letters can be found in Appendix C (Tribal Correspondence).

Table E-7: Entities that Received the Notice the Draft EIS Availability and Public Meetings Notification Letters

<i>Federally Recognized Tribes and Tribal Groups</i>	
Battle Mountain Shoshone	South Fork Band Council
Duckwater Shoshone Tribe	Summit Lake Paiute Tribe
Elko Band Council	Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone
Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe	Walker River Paiute Tribe
Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribes	Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California
Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada	Wells Band Council
Lovelock Paiute Tribe	Winnemucca Indian Colony of Nevada
Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe	Yerington Paiute Tribe
Reno-Sparks Indian Colony	Yomba Shoshone Tribe
<i>Federal Elected Officials and Federal Agencies</i>	
U.S. Senators	
U.S. Representatives (Nevada Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4)	
U.S. Bureau of Land Management	
Planning and Military Liaison	
Nevada State Office	
Carson City District	
Stillwater Field Office	
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation	
Lahontan Basin Area Office	
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	
Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance	
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	
Nevada Realty Field Office	
Federal Aviation Administration	
Western-Pacific Region	
Northwest Mountain Region	
<i>State Elected Officials and State Agencies</i>	
Governor	
Nevada Department of Agriculture	
Nevada Department of Transportation	
Nevada Department of Wildlife	
Nevada Division of Minerals	
Nevada Division of Water Resources	
Nevada State Clearinghouse, Nevada Division of State Lands	
Nevada State Historic Preservation Office	
Nevada State Land Use Planning Advisory Council	
Nevada State Senators (District 17)	
Nevada State Representatives (District 38)	

**Table E-7: Entities that Received the Notice of the Draft EIS Availability and Public Meetings Notification Letters
(continued)**

Local Elected Officials and Local Agencies	
City of Fallon	Mayor
City of Lovelock	Mayor
City of Winnemucca	Mayor
Churchill County	Districts 1, 2, and 3 Planning Department
Crescent Valley Town Advisory Board	
Eureka County	Board of Commissioners Natural Resources
Lander County	Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5
Lyon County	Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5
Mineral County Commission	
Nye County	Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5
Pershing County	Board of Commissioners District Attorney
Other	
Anderson Ranch	
Bench Creek Ranch	
Bucky O'Neill Stix-Card, Ltd.	
Cow Canyon Pleasant Valley Livestock, LLC	
Damonte Ranch, LLC	
Dave Stix Bass Flat	
Dixie Valley Bench Creek Ranch	
Harry Brown Trust	
McDougal Livestock Company and Nevada Nile Ranch, Inc.	
Mountain Well-La Plata Bench Creek Ranch	
Nevada Association of Counties	
Paiute Pipeline Company	
Pleasant Valley Livestock, LLC, Alpine Ranch	
RCS, representing Lander County	
Resource Concepts, Inc.	
White Sage Grazing Association, LLC	



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

5090
Ser N5/0242
November 7, 2018

The Honorable Mark Amodei
U.S. Representative
U.S. House of Representatives, 2nd District of Nevada
905 Railroad St., Suite 104 D
Elko, NV 89801

Dear Representative Amodei:

Subj: NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE FALLON RANGE TRAINING COMPLEX
MODERNIZATION DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND
PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The U.S. Navy has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to assess the potential environmental impacts of the proposed modernization of the Fallon Range Training Complex, located in northern Nevada. The document is now available for public review and comment, and the Navy will hold seven public meetings throughout northern Nevada to inform the public about the proposal and the results of the environmental impact analysis. The Navy welcomes your review and comments on the Draft EIS.

The Fallon Range Training Complex is the Navy's premier aviation training range, supporting aviation and ground training, including live-fire training. The Navy trains 100 percent of deploying naval aviation and naval special warfare units at the Fallon Ranges. The current bombing ranges have not changed substantially in size or configuration since the 1990s. However, newer-generation aircraft and weapons have outpaced the current capabilities of the Fallon Ranges.

In response to technological and tactical advancements, the Navy conducted a comprehensive analysis, referred to as the *Ninety Days to Combat* study, to determine the land and airspace needed to meet combat training requirements for modern aircraft and weapons systems. The analysis showed that the current size of the Fallon Ranges severely restricts the extent the Navy can use its weapons systems to train for combat. The proposed modernization would provide more realistic training capabilities while maintaining the safety of local communities.

The Navy's proposal to modernize the Fallon Ranges would include:

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

Figure E-14: Stakeholder Letter for the Draft EIS Notice of Availability and Public Meetings

5090
Ser N5/0242
November 7, 2018

The Navy is not proposing to change the level or type of training from what is stated in the 2015 Military Readiness Activities Fallon Range Training Complex EIS. Activities would be redistributed across the expanded ranges for more efficient use of the training space. No decisions about the proposed modernization would be made or any real estate actions taken until this EIS effort is complete.

The Navy will be holding seven public meetings to provide information and give the public an opportunity to comment on the Draft EIS. Public meetings will include an open-house information session, during which time Navy representatives will be available to provide information and answer questions. A brief Navy presentation and public oral comment session will occur at approximately the beginning of the second hour of the meetings. Written and oral comments will be accepted at each public meeting.

The meeting schedule is as follows:

Date: Monday, December 10, 2018, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Location: Hawthorne Convention Center
932 E St.
Hawthorne, NV 89415

Date: Monday, December 10, 2018, 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Location: Gabbs School Gymnasium
511 E Ave.
Gabbs, NV 89409

Date: Tuesday, December 11, 2018, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Location: Austin Town Hall
135 Court St.
Austin, NV 89310

Date: Tuesday, December 11, 2018, 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Location: Eureka Opera House, Grand Hall
31 S. Main St.
Eureka, NV 89316

Date: Wednesday, December 12, 2018, 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Location: Fallon Convention Center
100 Campus Way
Fallon, NV 89406

Figure E-14: Stakeholder Letter for the Draft EIS Notice of Availability and Public Meetings (continued)

5090
Ser N5/0242
November 7, 2018

Date: Thursday, December 13, 2018, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Location: C Punch Inn and Casino, Kumiva Room
1420 Cornell Ave.
Lovelock, NV 89419

Date: Thursday, December 13, 2018, 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: West 2nd Events Center
600 W. 2nd St.
Reno, NV 89503

Concurrent with the National Environmental Policy Act public involvement process, the Navy is identifying additional consulting parties to participate in the Section 106 process under the National Historic Preservation Act regarding potential effects of the Proposed Action and alternatives on historic properties. Historic properties include districts, sites, buildings, structures, or objects listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. During each of the public meetings, an information station will be available where individuals can learn more about the Section 106 process.

To review the Draft EIS and for additional information, please visit the project website at www.FRTCModernization.com. The Draft EIS is also available at the following public libraries:

Austin Branch Library
88 Main St.
Austin, NV 89310

Carson City Library
900 N. Roop St.
Carson City, NV 89701

Churchill County Library
553 S. Maine St.
Fallon, NV 89406

Crescent Valley Branch Library
5045 Tenabo Ave.
Crescent Valley, NV 89821

Downtown Reno Library
301 S. Center St.
Reno, NV 89501

Eureka Branch Library
80 S. Monroe St.
Eureka, NV 89316

Fernley Branch Library
575 Silver Lace Blvd.
Fernley, NV 89408

Gabbs Community Library
602 Third St.
Gabbs, NV 89409

Mineral County Library
110 First St.
Hawthorne, NV 89415

Pershing County Library
1125 Central Ave.
Lovelock, NV 89419

Yerington Branch Library
20 Nevin Way
Yerington, NV 89447

Figure E-14: Stakeholder Letter for the Draft EIS Notice of Availability and Public Meetings (continued)

5090
Ser N5/0242
November 7, 2018

The public comment period will begin November 16, 2018, and end January 15, 2019. All comments must be postmarked or received online by **January 15, 2019**, for consideration in the Final EIS. All comments submitted during the public comment period will become part of the public record and substantive comments will be addressed in the Final EIS.

Comments may be submitted online at www.FRTCModernization.com, at the public meetings, or by mail to:

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

In addition, the Navy welcomes 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 Plans and Liaison Officer, at robert.rule@navy.mil or 775-426-2925.

Please help the Navy inform the community about the availability of the Draft EIS and public meetings by sharing this information with your staff and interested individuals.

Sincerely,



DAVID HALLORAN
Captain, U.S. Navy
Commanding Officer

Enclosure: 1. Hard copy of the Fallon Range Training Complex Modernization Draft EIS

Figure E-14: Stakeholder Letter for the Draft EIS Notice of Availability and Public Meetings (continued)

E.4.1.5 Postcard Mailers

A postcard mailer providing information on the public meetings, the Proposed Action, and how to submit comments was mailed first-class to 744 tribal staff, individuals, landowners, and organizations November 16, 2018. A second postcard mailer announcing the public comment period extension was mailed first-class December 28, 2018, to 1,018 elected officials, government agencies, tribal staff, individuals, landowners, and organizations. Examples of the two postcard mailers are shown in Figure E-15 and Figure E-16.



FALLON RANGE TRAINING COMPLEX MODERNIZATION EIS




The U.S. Navy invites you to participate in the National Environmental Policy Act public involvement process for the Fallon Range Training Complex Modernization Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The Navy has prepared a Draft EIS to assess the potential environmental impacts of the proposed modernization of the Fallon Ranges. The proposed modernization would provide more realistic training capabilities while maintaining the safety of local communities.

THE NAVY WELCOMES YOUR INPUT!

You can participate in the public involvement process in several ways:

- ▶ Review a copy of the Draft EIS and submit comments online at: www.FRTCModernization.com
- ▶ Review the Draft EIS at these public libraries: Austin, Carson City, Churchill County, Crescent Valley, Downtown Reno, Eureka, Fernley, Gabbs Community, Mineral County, Pershing County, and Yerington

- ▶ Attend a public meeting to learn more and submit written or oral comments
- ▶ Mail written comments to:
Naval Facilities Engineering
Command Southwest
Code EV21.SG
1220 Pacific Highway
Building 1, 5th Floor
San Diego, CA 92132

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Each meeting will include informational poster stations, a brief presentation by the Navy starting at the beginning of the second hour, followed by a public oral comment session.

<p>Monday, Dec. 10, 2018 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Hawthorne Convention Center 932 E St. Hawthorne, NV 89415</p>	<p>Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Eureka Opera House, Grand Hall 31 S. Main St. Eureka, NV 89316</p>
<p>Monday, Dec. 10, 2018 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Gabbs School Gymnasium 511 E Ave. Gabbs, NV 89409</p>	<p>Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2018 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Fallon Convention Center 100 Campus Way Fallon, NV 89406</p>
<p>Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Austin Town Hall 135 Court St. Austin, NV 89310</p>	<p>Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. C Punch Inn and Casino, Kumiva Room 1420 Cornell Ave. Lovelock, NV 89419</p>
	<p>Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. West 2nd Events Center 600 W. 2nd St. Reno, NV 89503</p>



Comments must be postmarked or received online by **Jan. 15, 2019**, for consideration in the Final EIS.

Figure E-15: Postcard Mailer for the Draft EIS Public Meetings (Front)



The postcard features a light orange background. At the top left, there is a photograph of an F-35 fighter jet in flight. To its right is a photograph of two soldiers in full combat gear, one holding a rifle. Below these images, the text 'PROPOSED ACTION' is written in bold blue letters. Underneath, a paragraph states: 'The Navy's proposal to modernize the Fallon Ranges would include:'. This is followed by a bulleted list of four items: '► Renewal of the current public land withdrawal', '► Land range expansion through additional withdrawal of public lands and acquisition of non-federal land', '► Airspace expansion and modifications', and '► Upgrades to range infrastructure'. At the bottom left, there is a photograph of a soldier in a helmet and night vision goggles, and to its right, a photograph of a military aircraft on a runway. A dark grey banner at the bottom of the postcard contains the text: 'Visit www.FRTCModernization.com for more information and to submit comments online.'

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


PROPOSED ACTION

The Navy's proposal to modernize the Fallon Ranges would include:

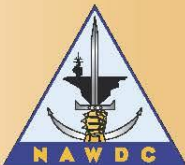

- Renewal of the current public land withdrawal
- Land range expansion through additional withdrawal of public lands and acquisition of non-federal land
- Airspace expansion and modifications
- Upgrades to range infrastructure

Visit www.FRTCModernization.com for more information and to submit comments online.

Figure E-15: Postcard Mailer for the Draft EIS Public Meetings (Back)



FALLON RANGE TRAINING COMPLEX MODERNIZATION EIS



PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD EXTENDED

The U.S. Navy has extended the public review and comment period by an additional 30 days for the Fallon Range Training Complex Modernization Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Public comments may now be submitted until **Feb. 14, 2019**.

The Navy prepared a Draft EIS to assess the potential environmental impacts of modernizing the Fallon Ranges. The proposed modernization would provide more realistic training capabilities while maintaining the safety of local communities.

THE NAVY WELCOMES YOUR INPUT!

You can participate in several ways:

- ▶ Review the Draft EIS and submit comments online at: **www.FRTCModernization.com**
- ▶ Review the Draft EIS at these public libraries: Austin, Carson City, Churchill County, Crescent Valley, Downtown Reno, Eureka, Fernley, Gabbs Community, Mineral County, Pershing County, and Yerington
- ▶ Mail written comments to:
Naval Facilities Engineering
Command Southwest, Code EV21.SG
1220 Pacific Highway
Building 1, 5th Floor
San Diego, CA 92132

Comments must be postmarked or received online by Feb. 14, 2019, for consideration in the Final EIS.





Figure E-16: Postcard Mailer for the Comment Period Extension for the Draft EIS (Front)

PROPOSED ACTION

The Navy's proposal to modernize the Fallon Ranges would include:

- ▶ Renewal of the current public land withdrawal
- ▶ Land range expansion through additional withdrawal of public lands and acquisition of non-federal land
- ▶ Airspace expansion and modifications
- ▶ Upgrades to range infrastructure



Visit www.FRTCModernization.com for more information or to submit comments online.

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

Figure E-16: Postcard Mailer for the Comment Period Extension for the Draft EIS (Back)

E.4.1.6 Fliers

A flier providing information on the public meetings, the Proposed Action, and how to submit comments was mailed first-class to 42 businesses November 15, 2018. A brief transmittal letter accompanied the flier. An example of the flier is shown in Figure E-17. The flier distribution list included the following:

- Austin Branch Library
- Carson City Library
- Churchill County Library
- Crescent Valley Branch Library
- Downtown Reno Library
- Eureka Branch Library
- Fernley Branch Library
- Gabbs Community Library
- Mineral County Library
- Pershing County Library
- Yerington Branch Library
- Austin Post Office
- Carson City Post Office
- Fallon Post Office
- Crescent Valley Post Office
- Reno Post Office
- Eureka Post Office
- Fernley Post Office
- Gabbs Post Office
- Hawthorne Post Office
- Lovelock Post Office
- Yerington Post Office
- Carson City Community Center
- Fallon Fraternal Hall & Community Center
- Crescent Valley Town Center
- Evelyn Mount Northeast Community Center (Reno)
- Fernley Community Center
- Hawthorne Convention Center
- Pershing County Community Center
- Dayton Valley Community Center
- City County Gym (Fallon)
- Oats Park Art Center (Fallon)
- Churchill County Museum
- William N Pennington Life Center (Fallon)
- Naval Air Station Fallon Community Center
- Western Nevada College – Fallon Campus
- Western Nevada College (Carson City)
- University of Nevada Cooperative Extension (Eureka)
- VFW Post 2313 John Franklin Shain Post (Hawthorne)
- VFW Post 1002 Lawton-Silva Post (Fallon)
- VFW Post 10247 Washoe-Lyon Memorial Post (Fernley)
- VFW Post 8084 Kermit H. Neddenriep Post (Yerington)



FALLON RANGE TRAINING COMPLEX MODERNIZATION EIS



The U.S. Navy invites you to participate in the National Environmental Policy Act public involvement process for the Fallon Range Training Complex Modernization Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The Navy has prepared a Draft EIS to assess the potential environmental impacts of the proposed modernization of the Fallon Ranges. The proposed modernization would provide more realistic training capabilities while maintaining the safety of local communities.

PROPOSED ACTION

The Navy's proposal to modernize the Fallon Ranges would include:

- ▶ Renewal of the current public land withdrawal
- ▶ Land range expansion through additional withdrawal of public lands and acquisition of non-federal land
- ▶ Airspace expansion and modifications
- ▶ Upgrades to range infrastructure

THE NAVY WELCOMES YOUR INPUT!

You can participate in the public involvement process in several ways:

- ▶ Review a copy of the Draft EIS and submit comments online at: www.FRTCMmodernization.com
- ▶ Review the Draft EIS at these public libraries: Austin, Carson City, Churchill County, Crescent Valley, Downtown Reno, Eureka, Fernley, Gabbs Community, Mineral County, Pershing County, and Yerington
- ▶ Attend a public meeting to learn more and submit written or oral comments
- ▶ Mail written comments to:
Naval Facilities Engineering
Command Southwest
Code EV21.SG
1220 Pacific Highway
Building 1, 5th Floor
San Diego, CA 92132

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Each meeting will include informational poster stations, a brief presentation by the Navy starting at the beginning of the second hour, followed by a public oral comment session.

Monday, Dec. 10, 2018

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Hawthorne Convention Center
932 E St.
Hawthorne, NV 89415

Monday, Dec. 10, 2018

5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Gabbs School Gymnasium
511 E Ave.
Gabbs, NV 89409

Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Austin Town Hall
135 Court St.
Austin, NV 89310

Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018

5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Eureka Opera House, Grand Hall
31 S. Main St.
Eureka, NV 89316

Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2018

5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Fallon Convention Center
100 Campus Way
Fallon, NV 89406

Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
C Punch Inn and Casino, Kumiva Room
1420 Cornell Ave.
Lovelock, NV 89419

Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018

5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
West 2nd Events Center
600 W. 2nd St.
Reno, NV 89503

Visit www.FRTCMmodernization.com for more information and to submit comments online. Comments must be postmarked or received online by **Jan. 15, 2019**, for consideration in the Final EIS.

Figure E-17: Draft EIS Public Meeting Flier

E.5 Summary of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement Public Meetings

In total, 369 people attended seven public meetings. Twenty-one written comment letters and 59 oral comments were submitted at the meetings. Additionally, 170 postcards (form comments) were received at the public meetings.

Table E-8 details the number of attendees and the number of oral and written comment letters received at each public meeting. Media attendance reflects people who identified themselves as media.

Table E-8: Summary of the Draft EIS Public Meetings

Site	Attendance	Oral Comments	Comment Letters
Hawthorne Monday, Dec. 10, 2018	28	4	1
Media Attendance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mineral County Independent News 			
Attendees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mineral County Economic Development Agency (2) Mineral County Planning Commission Mineral County Park and Recreation Sierra Club Walker Basin Conservancy (2) Nevada Outhouse Photography Runcer Leasing Compliance Safety Professionals Residents 			
Site	Attendance	Oral Comments	Comment Letters
Gabbs Monday, Dec. 10, 2018	60	12	1
Media Attendance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 			
Attendees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Western Shoshone Nation Yomba Tribe Nye County (3) Town of Gabbs Basin and Range Watch Brown Family Trust Premier MFG, LLC Pilot-Mountain Residents 			

Table E-8: Summary of the Draft EIS Public Meetings (continued)

Site	Attendance	Oral Comments	Comment Letters
Austin Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018	10	3	1
Media Attendance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 			
Attendees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Western Shoshone Nation Governor's Office of Economic Development Lander County Commissioner Lander County Public Lands 			
Site	Attendance	Oral Comments	Comment Letters
Eureka Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018	5	1	0
Media Attendance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 			
Attendees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eureka County Commissioner and Rancher Eureka County Commissioner-Elect Eureka County Rancher Opera House staff 			
Site	Attendance	Oral Comments	Comment Letters
Fallon Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2018	110	9	8
Media Attendance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Fallon Post Lahontan Valley News 			
Attendees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Western Shoshone Nation Senator Cortez Masto staff (2) State Assemblywoman Robin L Titus, MD Bureau of Land Management (2) U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Nevada Department of Transportation Nevada Department of Wildlife Churchill County (4) City of Fallon Churchill County Economic Development Authority Fallon Chamber of Commerce Fallon Police Department Lahontan Audubon Society Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership Rotary Club International Capital and Metals Corporation Hodges Transportation WCW Corporation Tea Party Ranchers Permittees Land owners Residents 			

Table E-8: Summary of the Draft EIS Public Meetings (continued)

Site	Attendance	Oral Comments	Comment Letters	
Lovelock, NV C Punch Inn and Casino, Kumiva Room 1420 Cornell Ave. Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018; 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.	44	5	3	
Media Attendance: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Lovelock Review-Miner				
Attendees: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Yomba Shoshone Tribe (3)Pershing County natives (2)Pershing County CommissionerPershing County (2)Pershing County Economic Development AuthorityChurchill County Emergency ManagementBig Meadow Conservation DistrictPershing GoldCoeur Rochester, Inc. (5)Airport ownerRanchersLand ownerMining interests				
Site	Attendance	Oral Comments	Comment Letters	Postcards (form)
Reno, NV West 2nd Events Center 600 W. 2nd St. Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018; 5 to 8 p.m.	112	25	7	170
Media Attendance: <ul style="list-style-type: none">KVTN Channel 2Reno Gazette-JournalKNVC FM				
Attendees: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Washoe Tribal Environmental DirectorSenator Cortez Masto staffBureau of Land Management (5)U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (2)U.S. Department of AgricultureFederal Highway AdministrationMarine Corps Mountain Warfare Training CenterNevada Division of MineralsEureka CountyNV EnergyUniversity of Nevada RenoPlan ActionFriends of Nevada Wilderness (14)Great Basin Resource Watch (2)Center for Biological DiversityCoalition for Nevada’s Wildlife (2)Sierra Club (2)		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Labor of LovePLAN Environmental JusticePlan Action (Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada Action Fund)Sierra Area Landsailing AssociationAircraft Owners and Pilots Association – Experimental Aircraft AssociationNevada Farm BureauNevada Backcountry Hunters and Anglers (3)Nevada Mining AssociationNevada Mineral Exploration CoalitionReno Rock and Gem Society (2)Dust Devils Motorcycle ClubNew Nevada ResourcesBell Mountain Exploration CorporationProjem Venture, Inc.The Shining K, LLCFallon Livestock, LLCWater rights consultantResidents		

E.6 Distribution of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement

All of the parties notified of the availability of the Draft EIS were directed to view the document electronically on the project website (www.FRTCModernization.com) or access hard and CD-ROM copies at the information repositories discussed in Section E.6.2 (Information Repositories). Some stakeholders received a Draft EIS CD-ROM, a flash drive, or a hard copy enclosure along with the notification letter. Chairpersons of federally recognized tribes received a hard copy of the Draft EIS.

E.6.1 Federal, State, and Local Agencies

The Federal Aviation Administration, Operations Support Group, Western Service Center; the U.S. Bureau of Land Management Washington D.C. and Nevada State offices; and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge received hard copies and a CD-ROM. Nevada Department of Agriculture; Nevada Department of Transportation; Nevada Department of Wildlife; Nevada Division of Water Resources; Nevada Division of Minerals; McDougal Livestock Company and Nevada Nile Ranch, Inc.; Nevada Association of Counties; and RCS received flash drives of the Draft EIS.

E.6.2 Information Repositories

The Draft EIS was mailed in hard copy form, along with a CD-ROM, to the information repository locations shown in Table E-9.

Table E-9: Information Repository Locations

Austin Branch Library 88 Main St. Austin, NV 89310	Fernley Branch Library 575 Silver Lace Blvd. Fernley, NV 89408
Carson City Library 900 N. Roop St. Carson City, NV 89701	Gabbs Community Library 602 3rd St. Gabbs, NV 89409
Churchill County Library 553 S. Maine St. Fallon, NV 89406	Mineral County Library 110 First St. Hawthorne, NV 89415
Crescent Valley Branch Library Crescent Valley Town Center 5045 Tenabo Ave., Suite 103 Crescent Valley, NV 89821	Pershing County Library 1125 Central Ave. Lovelock, NV 89419
Downtown Reno Library 301 S. Center St. Reno, NV 89501	Yerington Branch Library 20 Nevin Way Yerington, NV 89447
Eureka Branch Library 80 S. Monroe St. Eureka, NV 89316	

E.7 Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Throughout the public comment period, a total of 1,466 unique comments were received. Public comments on the Draft EIS were submitted in three ways:

- Written or e-mailed comments (received any time during the public comment period) (393 comments).
- Comments submitted at a public meeting (written or oral) (written: 21 comments [number included in the above unique comment total]; oral: 59 comments).
- Comments submitted directly on the project website (received any time during the public comment period) (1,014 comments).

Additionally, form letters (with 584 signatures) and form postcards (with 290 signatures) were also received from various nongovernmental organizations.

Comments on the Draft EIS were received from 6 federal agencies, 13 state agencies, 22 county agencies, 89 nongovernmental organizations and business groups, 15 Native American tribes, and 447 private individuals.

Each comment was reviewed and categorized into specific resource areas or topics. One comment may include comments on multiple resource areas or topics. Appendix F (Public Comments and Responses) contains a summary of the comments received on the Draft EIS and the Navy's responses.

E.8 Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision

This Final EIS includes updates and revisions to the Draft EIS, a complete set of all substantive comments received on the Draft EIS, and the Navy's responses to such comments (Appendix F, Public Comments and Responses). Response to public comments may also take other forms, including correction of data, clarifications of and modifications to analytical approaches, and inclusion of additional data or analysis.

A 30-day waiting period will follow the issuance of the Final EIS. The Navy will sign a ROD after consideration of the Final EIS and public comments. The Navy will publish a *Notice of Availability of the ROD* in the *FR*; distribute the ROD to Indian Tribes, agencies, interested parties, and local newspapers; and post it on the FRTC EIS website. The ROD will document the Navy's final decision on the Proposed Action (to include identifying an action alternative as a proposal to be submitted to Congress for action), the rationale behind that decision, and any commitments to mitigation and monitoring. Congress will then review the Navy's proposal and ROD and will consider legislation for the proposed land withdrawal.