

Date submitted (Pacific Standard Time): 1/13/2017 12:00:00 AM

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Comments:

RE: Pacific NW Electronic Warfare Range

Mr. Dean Millet:

I object to the Draft Decision to grant a 5-year special use permit to the US Navy to conduct electronic warfare training in the Olympic National Forest.

Objection 1: The Environmental Assessment does not comply with NEPA 1508.7 regarding Cumulative Impacts (Concern, Seq#75)

Your review of "Context" (page 10) "Noise" (page 11) and the Footnote 2 (page 11) do not adequately address the Indirect "Effects" of the increased EA-18 jet traffic to areas outside the EWR training range. An obviously foreseeable future impact is the jet flights from Whidbey Island Naval Air Station to the mobile sites. The impacts of these flights cannot be sufficiently understood until the Navy reveals the projected flight paths over various terrains and communities, and presents adequate analysis of impacts to human health, wildlife and communities.

This Decision Notice does not provide the public with this required information and limits our ability to respond to your Decision.

Solution 1: Require the Navy to provide information on flight paths, flight altitudes over various sea and landscapes and communities, and their resulting impacts. Withdraw this Draft Notice of Decision. The Draft Notice of Decision should be re-issued with this information. Announce the re-issued Decision to the public followed by a 45-day objection period.

Objection 2: Missing or withheld information during the comment period for the September, 2014 EA

Page 4 of your Decision Notice states that you "specifically considered the 1988 Master Agreement with the Department of Defense". Yet this Master Agreement repeatedly states that an agreement is contingent on the lack of DoD lands suitable for the proposed training activities. (Paragraph I.C). The Agreement further states that the DoD must provide to the Forest Supervisor substantiating analysis and determination that no other DoD land is available for the training exercises. (Paragraphs III.A; IV.A and IV.B).

This Decision Notice does not provide the public with this required information and limits our ability to respond to your Decision.

Solution 2: Withdraw this Draft Notice of Decision. Include the DoD's official analysis and determination as to the unsuitability or unavailability of DoD land for EWR training use in a revised Draft Decision. Reissue the revised Decision with the analysis included, followed by 45-day objection period.

I REQUEST, AT THE END OF THE OBJECTION PERIOD, A RESOLUTION MEETING WITH RESPONSIBLE USFS REPRESENTATIVES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OBJECTION PROCESS OUTLINED IN 36CFR218. THIS MEETING TO BE GIVEN SUFFICIENT PUBLIC NOTICE. I REQUEST PERSONAL NOTICE OF THIS MEETING AT THE ADDRESS ABOVE OR EMAIL.