

10-9-2006

To: Atlantic Fleet Sonar P.M.

Subject: Comments on Scoping of E.I.S. assessing consequences of active sonar training along the East Coast of the USA

1. Numerous children and adults go on "whale-watching" and "dolphin-watching" boat tours from Va. Beach. These boat tours have large educational and economic benefits to the community. The E.I.S. must study whether the Navy's active sonar training could cause marine mammals to not come to the waters off Va. Beach, interfering with these boat tours and their educational and economic benefits.
2. The Navy must study the new alternative of doing this sonar training in European waters where there are no whales or dolphins nearby. This would help other NATO navies participate in this sonar training.

Please acknowledge receipt of these comments. Robert F. Deegan