

A-011

Arthur Langrish
3869 Lockhaven Lane
Grimesland, NC 27837

March 22, 2008

Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Atlantic Division
Attention: Code EV22 (Atlantic Fleet Sonar Project Manager)
6506 Hampton Blvd
Norfolk, VA 23508-1278

Subject: Atlantic Fleet Active Sonar DEIS

Gentlemen

I am writing to express my opposition to the plan to develop an active sonar range in Onslow Bay.

584/585
586...

I took the time to attend the August 14, 2006 hearing at Beaufort's Duke Marine Lab and was very concerned to hear of the potential damage to sea life in this area. . . .]

... 584 • [Active sonar damage to whales, turtles and dolphins leading to injury, death and disorientation. Strandings, injuries and deaths have been linked to incidents around Hawaii, North Carolina, US Virgin Islands, Bahamas, the Canary Islands and Alaska.]

... 585 • [Creation of a "fish dead" zone due to fish perceiving the signals as warnings of predators.]

... 586 • [Ingestion of parachute debris from many thousands of discarded sonar buoys.]

In addition to the pain, suffering and population decline which these species would suffer, we have to consider the economic impact on North Carolina. As our industrial base declines, this state is becoming increasingly dependent on the tourist industry. [This sonar range will damage the sports fishing as well as commercial fishing industries without any beneficial offset.]

587

While I recognize the need for the Navy to practice to provide a satisfactory defense system and that you favor a site close to an air station, I urge you to look for an alternate site, which will have a less devastating impact. [Surely you can find an area more distant from the Gulf Stream. Perhaps even the Great Lakes, where migrating whales, turtles and dolphins are not present.]

588

Sincerely

Arthur Langrish, Chairperson: Cypress Sierra Group