

NAVY AFAST PUBLIC HEARING  
MOREHEAD CITY, NORTH CAROLINA  
MARCH 11, 2008

---

1 mammal strandings with Navy sonar activity, at least one  
2 peer-reviewed study has done so. I look forward to future  
3 research on the harm to marine mammals as a result of active  
4 sonar activity. The Environmental Impact Statement prepared  
5 has failed to alleviate my concerns for the North Carolina  
6 coast."

7 Thank you.

8 **LT. COL. GREER:** Thank you, Ms. Hall.

9 Mr. Strong, would you please step to the  
10 microphone? Again, if you would state your name, spell your  
11 name, and then just give me your state of residence.

12 **MR. STRONG:** My name is Corwin,  
13 C-o-r-w-i-n -- nickname, Bud, B-u-d. And the last name,  
14 Strong, S-t-r-o-n-g. And I reside here in New Bern, North  
15 Carolina.

16 I am the past president, Coastal Carolina  
17 Council, Navy League USA; immediate past president, North  
18 Carolina State Area, Navy League USA. I have lived in New  
19 Bern, North Carolina for 18 years, following 26 1/2 years,  
20 military service in the United States Public Health Service.  
21 Retired as a captain, O-6 grade.

22 We Navy Leaguers express confidence that  
23 the U.S. Navy has examined the technical and environmental  
24 issues and has proposed a responsible Atlantic Fleet Active  
25 Sonar Training Program. Therefore, U.S. Navy League

NAVY AFAST PUBLIC HEARING  
MOREHEAD CITY, NORTH CAROLINA  
MARCH 11, 2008

---

1 National Headquarters, North Carolina State Area, Navy  
2 League USA, and Coastal Carolina Council, Navy League USA  
3 provides the following Navy League policy statement:

4 (As read:) [We support our service  
5 members being able to train in the environment in which they  
6 will fight if they are to survive and prevail. The Navy has  
7 proved that they conduct the necessary training without  
8 harming or destroying the habitat and provides more funding  
9 to study the effects of maritime operations for marine  
10 mammals than all concerned non-government organizations  
11 combined. The Navy must continue and must be allowed to  
12 operate sonar in such a way that is protective of marine  
13 life and supportive of our national defense mission.]

14 Now, on a more personal note, [I am not  
15 aware of any scientific studies proving beyond a reasonable  
16 doubt that the U.S. Navy sonar damages marine life.] [I  
17 commend them for the excellent program proposal to increase  
18 our national security. I also deeply appreciate their  
19 environmental concern. Therefore, I urge acceptance of the  
20 Atlantic Fleet Active Sonar Training Program proposal.]

21 **LT. COL. GREER:** Thank you, Mr. Strong.

22 Mr. Culler?

23 **MR. CULLER:** My name is William  
24 Culler, spelled W-i-l-l-i-a-m. Culler, C-u-l-l-e-r.

25 Some of my remarks will echo Mr. Strong's. I