

March 19, 2008

Dear Naval Facilities Engineering Command,

350 [I believe in these points:

The Navy's operational requirements should not supersede its marine stewardship obligations.]

351 [Exercises should not be conducted at night or during other periods when visibility is poor.]

352 [Areas where marine animals are known to congregate, such as feeding and breeding areas, should be completely avoided.]

353 [Areas close to the migration path of the endangered North Atlantic right whale should be off-limits to Navy traffic during the migration season.]

354 [The Navy should have at least three trained and dedicated marine mammal observers on all ships equipped with MFA sonar and employ dedicated marine

mammal aerial surveillance to look for marine animals an hour before and an hour after an exercise. ]

355. [When an animal (including dolphins, who typically low ride) is observed within 2,000 yards of the sonar dome, the sonar should be shut down until the animal has left the area.]

356. [An after action report for each exercise documenting ship positions and sonar use should be prepared and made publically available at no charge.]

Most Respectfully,

Margaret Becker