

**Churchill County  
Agenda Report**

**Date Submitted:** September 1, 2016

**Agenda Item:** Letters Received #   F    
**Agenda Date Requested:** September 21, 2016

**To:** Board of Churchill County Commissioners  
**From:** Captain David Halloran, NAS Fallon Commanding Officer, U.S. Navy  
**Subject Title:** Consideration and possible action re: Notification from the U.S. Navy of their intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and to announce public scoping meetings for the Fallon Range Training Complex (FRTC) Modernization.

**Type of Action Requested:** (check one)

Resolution  Ordinance  
 Formal Action/Motion  Other – Informational Only

**Does this action require a Business Impact Statement?** No

**Recommended Board Action:** None.

**Discussion:** Captain David Halloran provides notification from the Navy of their intent to prepare Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to assess the potential environmental impacts of proposed modernization of the Fallon Range Training Complex (FRTC), located in northern Nevada. This proposed modernization would include expanding land ranges, modifying airspace, and renewing public land withdrawals. The Department of the Navy (Navy) is seeking public input and involvement, which are important to the development of an EIS under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

The FRTC is the Navy's premier aviation training range. It includes land training ranges and Special Use Airspace in northern Nevada, approximately 65 miles east of the City of Reno. The current FRTC bombing ranges have not changed substantially in size or configuration since the 1990s, or earlier in many cases. However, warfare technology has continued to change. In response to these changes, the Navy conducted a training capabilities study. This study concluded that the FRTC's training capabilities currently do not and, in the future, will not meet the real-world needs of the U.S. military. Therefore, to address these shortcomings, the Navy proposes to modernize and expand the FRTC's land ranges, airspace, and infrastructure. The proposed modernization would also enhance the safety and security of local and regional populations and infrastructure.

The Navy proposes to:

- Renew 202,859 acres of existing public land withdrawal that expires in November 2021.

The submission of this agenda report by county officials is not intended, necessarily, to reflect agreement as to a particular course of action to be taken by the board; rather, the submission hereof is intended, merely, to signify completion of all appropriate review processes in readiness of the matter for consideration and action by the board.

- Withdraw and reserve for military use approximately 604,789 acres of additional public land to expand existing land ranges.
- Acquire approximately 65,160 acres of non-federal land to expand existing land ranges.
- Expand associated Special Use Airspace and reconfigure existing airspace.
- Conduct the same general types and tempos of aviation and ground training as analyzed in Alternative 2 of the 2015 Military Readiness Activities at Fallon Range Training Complex, Final Environmental Impact Statement.
- Upgrade range infrastructure to support expansion and modernization.

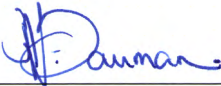
A 90-day scoping period will be open from August 26, 2016 through November 25, 2016. During this time, the Navy welcomes any comments regarding the proposed project.

The Navy is holding a series of meeting to discuss the project and to determine the type and scope of issues to be addressed in the EIS. Each of the seven scoping meetings will begin with a brief presentation about the project, followed by an open house with information stations staffed by Navy representatives.

The comments may be submitted at the scoping meetings, online at [www.FRTCModernization.com](http://www.FRTCModernization.com), or via postal mail to:


Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest  
Code EV21.AK  
1220 Pacific Highway  
Building 1, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Diego, CA 92132

Comments must be postmarked by November 25, 2016. All timely comments will be considered in preparation for the Draft EIS.

**Prepared By:**  Date: September 1, 2016  
Jacqueline A. Bauman, Deputy Clerk

**Reviewed By:**  Date: 9-1-2016  
Eleanor Lockwood, Churchill County Manager

 Date: 9/2/16  
Churchill County Civil Deputy District Attorney

 Date: 9/2/16  
Alan Kalt, Churchill County Chief Finance Officer

The submission of this agenda report by county officials is not intended, necessarily, to reflect agreement as to a particular course of action to be taken by the board; rather, the submission hereof is intended, merely, to signify completion of all appropriate review processes in readiness of the matter for consideration and action by the board.

-----  
Board Action Taken:

Motion: No Action – Informational Only

- 1) N/A
- 2) N/A

Aye/Nay  
N/A  
N/A  
N/A

*Pamela J Moore*

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Vote Recorded By)

The submission of this agenda report by county officials is not intended, necessarily, to reflect agreement as to a particular course of action to be taken by the board; rather, the submission hereof is intended, merely, to signify completion of all appropriate review processes in readiness of the matter for consideration and action by the board.



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
NAVAL AIR STATION FALLON  
4755 PASTURE ROAD  
FALLON, NV 89496-5000



5090  
Ser N0000CF/0150  
August 25, 2016

Mr. Pete Olsen  
Chairman  
Churchill County, District 2  
155 N. Taylor St., Suite 110  
Fallon, NV 89406

Dear Chairman Olsen,

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF INTENT TO PREPARE AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND TO ANNOUNCE PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS FOR THE FALLON RANGE TRAINING COMPLEX MODERNIZATION: EXPANSION OF LAND RANGES, AIRSPACE MODIFICATIONS, AND PUBLIC LAND WITHDRAWAL RENEWAL

This letter is to inform you that the Commander, United States (U.S.) Pacific Fleet (PACFLT) is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to assess the potential environmental impacts of proposed modernization of the Fallon Range Training Complex (FRTC), located in northern Nevada. This proposed modernization would include expanding land ranges, modifying airspace, and renewing public land withdrawals. The Department of the Navy (Navy) is seeking public input and involvement, which are important to the development of an EIS under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

The FRTC is the Navy's premier aviation training range. It includes land training ranges and Special Use Airspace in northern Nevada, approximately 65 miles east of the city of Reno. The current FRTC bombing ranges have not changed substantially in size or configuration since the 1990s, or earlier in many cases. However, warfare technology has continued to change. In response to these changes, the Navy conducted a training capabilities study. This study concluded that the FRTC's training capabilities currently do not, and, in the future, will not meet the real-world needs of the U.S. military. Therefore, to address these shortcomings, the Navy proposes to modernize and expand the FRTC's land ranges, airspace, and infrastructure. The proposed modernization would also enhance the safety and security of local and regional populations and infrastructure.

The Navy proposes to:

- Renew 202,859 acres of existing public land withdrawal that expires in November 2021;
- Withdraw and reserve for military use approximately 604,789 acres of additional public land to expand existing land ranges;

- Acquire approximately 65,160 acres of non-federal land to expand existing land ranges;
- Expand associated Special Use Airspace and reconfigure existing airspace;
- Conduct the same general types and tempos of aviation and ground training as analyzed in Alternative 2 of the *2015 Military Readiness Activities at Fallon Range Training Complex, Nevada, Final Environmental Impact Statement*; and
- Upgrade range infrastructure to support expansion and modernization.

### Environmental Analysis

The EIS will include an analysis of potential impacts on environmental resource areas including: soils; air quality/climate; water resources and quality; airborne noise; biological resources; land use and recreation; socioeconomic, environmental justice, and protection of children; transportation; cultural resources; Native American traditional resources; and public health and safety. Your input in identifying other specific issues and resource areas that should be assessed in the EIS will greatly aid our analysis. The EIS will also address the cumulative impacts of the direct and indirect effects of past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions on the human environment. No decisions about the Proposed Action or any real estate actions would be taken until this EIS effort is complete. The Bureau of Land Management, the Federal Aviation Administration, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will participate as cooperating agencies in the preparation of the EIS.

### Scoping Process

A 90-day scoping period will be open from August 26, 2016, through November 25, 2016. During this time, we welcome any comments you may have regarding the proposed project.

The Navy is holding a series of meetings to discuss the project and to determine the type and scope of issues to be addressed in the EIS. Each of the seven scoping meetings will begin with a brief presentation about the project, followed by an open house with information stations staffed by Navy representatives.

Seven open house information sessions will be held:

1. Monday, October 3, 2016, 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Fallon Convention Center, 100 Campus Way, Fallon, NV 89406.
2. Tuesday, October 4, 2016, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Pershing County Community Center, 820 6th Street, Lovelock, NV 89419.
3. Tuesday, October 4, 2016, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Evelyn Mount Northeast Community Center, 1301 Valley Road, Reno, NV 89512.
4. Wednesday, October 5, 2016, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Emma Nevada Town Hall, 135 Court Street, Austin, NV 89310.
5. Thursday, October 6, 2016, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Eureka Elementary School Multi-Purpose Room, 431 McCoy Street, Eureka, NV 89316.

5090  
Ser N0000CF/0150  
August 25, 2016

6. Friday, October 7, 2016, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Hawthorne Convention Center, 950 E Street, Hawthorne, NV 89415.
7. Friday, October 7, 2016, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Gabbs School Gymnasium, 511 E Avenue, Gabbs, NV 89409.

The Navy requests and welcomes comments. Comments may be submitted at the scoping meetings, online at [www.FRTCModernization.com](http://www.FRTCModernization.com), or via postal mail to:

Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest  
Code EV21.AK  
1220 Pacific Highway  
Building 1, 5th Floor  
San Diego, CA 92132

Comments must be postmarked by November 25, 2016. All timely comments will be considered in preparation of the Draft EIS.

The Navy would welcome the opportunity to schedule a presentation with your office on this project. If you would like to schedule a meeting, please contact Mr. Robert Rule, Naval Air Station Fallon Community Planner, at [robert.rule@navy.mil](mailto:robert.rule@navy.mil) or 775-426-2925. For more information about the project, please visit [www.FRTCModernization.com](http://www.FRTCModernization.com).

Sincerely,



DAVID HALLORAN  
Captain, U.S. Navy  
Commanding Officer



## FALLON RANGE TRAINING COMPLEX MODERNIZATION EIS



The U.S. Navy invites you to participate in the National Environmental Policy Act scoping process for the *Fallon Range Training Complex Modernization: Expansion of Land Ranges, Airspace Modifications, and Public Land Withdrawal Renewal Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)*.

The Navy is preparing an EIS to assess the potential environmental impacts of modernizing the Fallon Range Training Complex (located near Fallon, Nevada), which would include land range expansion through additional public land withdrawal and land acquisition, airspace modifications, and public land withdrawal renewal.

### THE NAVY WELCOMES YOUR INPUT!

#### You can participate in several ways:

Find more information and submit comments online at [www.FRTCmodernization.com](http://www.FRTCmodernization.com)

Attend a public scoping meeting to learn more and submit comments.

Mail written comments to:

Navy Facilities Engineering

Command South West

Code EV21AK

1220 Pacific High

Building 5th Floor

San Diego, CA 92161

### PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS

Each of the seven scoping meetings will begin with a brief presentation about the project, followed by an open house with information stations staffed by Navy representatives.

#### Monday, Oct. 3, 2016, 3 to 7 p.m.

Fallon Convention Center  
100 Campus Way  
Fallon, NV 89406

#### Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2016, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Pershing County Community Center  
820 Sixth St.  
Lovelock, NV 89419

#### Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2016, 5 to 7 p.m.

Evelyn Mount Northeast  
Community Center  
1301 Valley Road  
Reno, NV 89512

#### Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2016, 5 to 7 p.m.

Emma Nevada Town Hall  
35 Court St.  
Austin, NV 89310

#### Thursday, Oct. 6, 2016, 5 to 7 p.m.

Eureka Elementary School  
Multi-Purpose Room  
431 McCoy Street  
Eureka, NV 89316

#### Friday, Oct. 7, 2016, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Hawthorne Convention Center  
950 E St.  
Hawthorne, NV 89415

#### Friday, Oct. 7, 2016, 5 to 7 p.m.

Gabbs School Gymnasium  
511 E Ave  
Gabbs, NV 89409

Comments must be postmarked or received online by Nov. 25, 2016, for consideration in the Draft EIS.



**The Navy requests your input in identifying the scope of environmental issues and viable alternatives to be considered in the EIS.**



**PROPOSED ACTION**

The Navy's Proposed Action is to modernize the Fallon Range Training Complex, which would include land range expansion through additional public land withdrawal and land acquisition, airspace modifications, and public land withdrawal renewal.

Modernization would provide the realistic training capabilities needed to meet changing aviation and ground training requirements, while maintaining and enhancing the safety and security of local communities.

Visit [www.FRTCmodernization.com](http://www.FRTCmodernization.com) for more information or to submit comments online.



Naval Facilities Engineering  
Command Southwest  
Code EV21AK  
1220 Pacific Highway  
Building 1, 5th Floor  
San Diego, CA 92132



MR. HARRY SCHARMANN  
COMMISSIONER  
CHURCHILL COUNTY, DISTRICT 1  
155 N. TAYLOR ST., SUITE 110  
FALLON NV 89406

CHURCHILL COUNTY  
RECEIVED

AUG 29 2016

CLERK/TREASURER

8940632763 0007



?