



NAVAL UNDERSEA WARFARE CENTER DIVISION, KEYPORT

**INFORMATION ON NORTHWEST RANGE COMPLEX
EXTENSION EIS/OEIS**

Revision Date: March 2, 2004

- Introduction:

- The Naval Undersea Warfare Center in Keyport Washington, (NUWC Keyport) has identified a need to extend the Navy's *Northwest Range Complex* operating areas. NUWC Keyport needs to provide a variety of in-water environments to meet the latest operational requirements for manned and unmanned undersea vehicle testing.
- The *Northwest Range Complex* is comprised of three water operating areas in Washington state. One is the Dabob Bay Range Complex, which contains the Dabob operating area, two Hood Canal operating areas and the waters that connect them. Second is the Keyport operating area at Keyport Washington. The third operating area is the Quinault Underwater Tracking Range which is located off the coast of Washington.
- The proposed operating area extensions will help fulfill NUWC Keyport's mission by providing adequate testing areas in a variety of marine locations which are near NUWC Keyport.

- Briefing Outline:

- General Information
- General Description of Operations
- Proposed Action Overview
- Scoping Process Overview

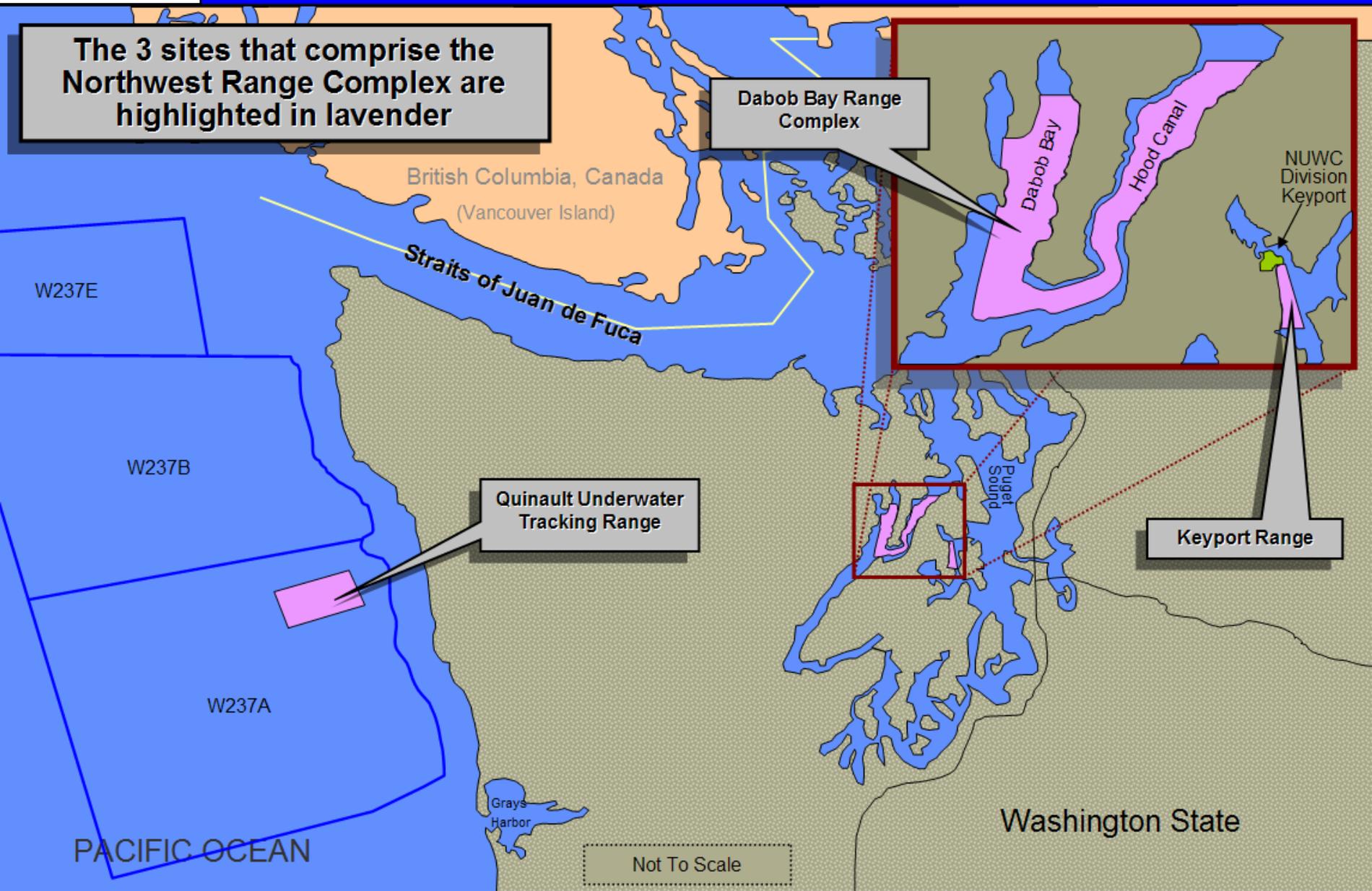
GENERAL INFORMATION

The Northwest Range Complex Operating Area Extension EIS/OEIS is being developed by a team of professionals from 3 organizations.

- NAVSEA NUWC Division Keyport - Action Proponent
 - Range Operations Professionals
 - Environmental Compliance Professionals
 - Public Affairs Professionals
- NAVFAC Engineering Field Activity NW - Project Manager
 - Environmental Planning Professionals
 - Natural Resources Professionals
- The Environmental Company (TEC) - Contract Support
 - Environmental Analysis Professionals

EXISTING NORTHWEST RANGE COMPLEX

The 3 sites that comprise the Northwest Range Complex are highlighted in lavender



GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS

- The following 5 slides portray general types of operations and capabilities for testing including:
 - 1) Frequency of Range Operations
 - 2) Traditional Fixed Range Capabilities
 - 3) Buoy Based Portable Range
 - 4) Operational Photographs
 - 5) General Types Of Unmanned Undersea Vehicles

FREQUENCY OF RANGE OPERATIONS

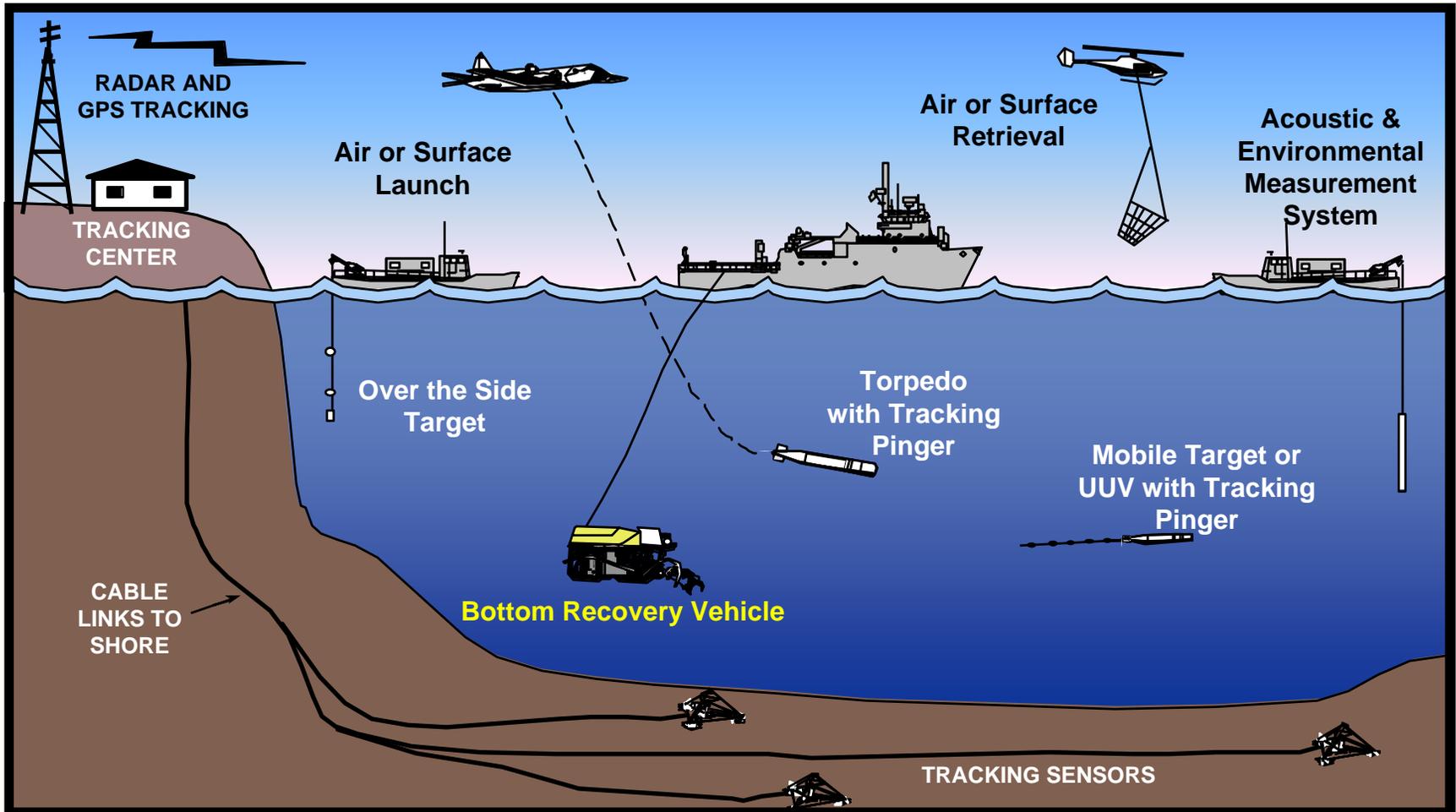
- Range activity seldom requires complete closure of operating areas
- Range usage varies year to year
- Typical annual usage rates:
 - Dabob Bay: 50-130 Days
 - Keyport: 30-60 Days
 - Quinault: few operations; typically less than 15 days each
- Every effort is made to operate cooperatively with local maritime activities, fisheries, and public recreation
- Range procedures require that operations be delayed or suspended if whales are detected on range



TRADITIONAL FIXED RANGE CAPABILITIES

This slide portrays the variety of different systems which could be used on fixed ranges.

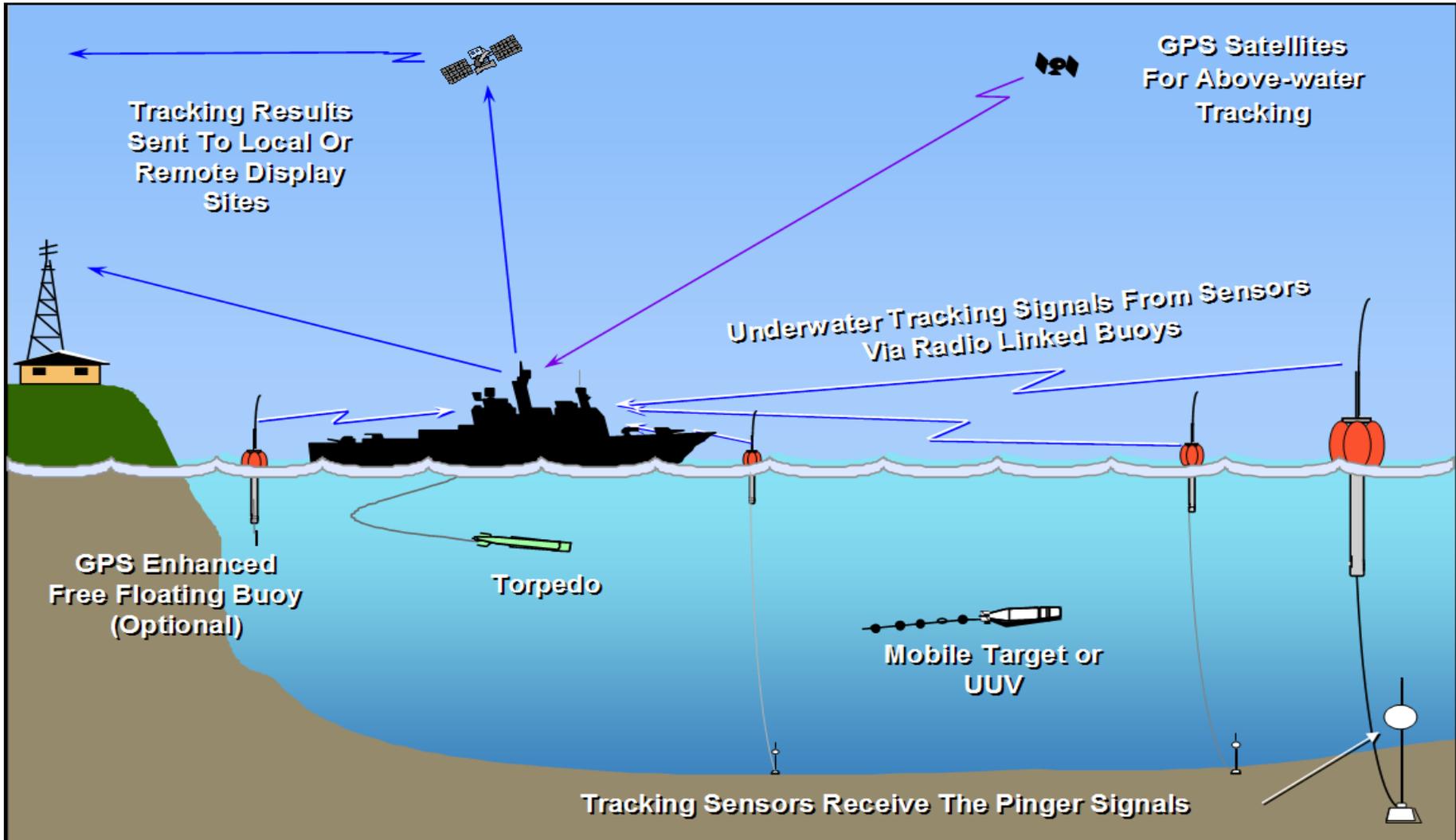
- Most tests use only one or two systems at a time. For example a torpedo could be launched on the surface and recovered from the bottom.
- The Bottom recovery vehicle (shown in yellow) is unique to NUWC Keyport Ranges. It is used to recover all assets that end up on the bottom.



BUOY BASED PORTABLE RANGE TRACKING

This slide portrays the main components of the portable range.

- Most tests use only one or two systems at a time.
- After a particular test the portable range is retrieved for reuse at a later time and different location.



OPERATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS

This slide shows a variety of pictures taken during typical operations.



GENERAL TYPES OF UNMANNED UNDERSEA VEHICLES

This slide shows a variety of pictures representing general types of unmanned undersea vehicles.



PROPOSED ACTION OVERVIEW

The Naval Undersea Warfare Center (NUWC) is chartered as the Navy's full spectrum research, development, test and evaluation center for autonomous underwater systems

- NUWC Division, Keyport:
 - Has the technical and geographic resources necessary to provide Test & Evaluation (T&E) services, in both surrogate and simulated war-fighting environments
 - Maintains the depot and industrial infrastructure necessary to support platforms, vehicles, and weapons
 - Designated by Congress as the National Unmanned Undersea Vehicle T&E Center

Extend the Northwest Range Complex operating areas outside the existing range areas to support existing and future range operations including evolving manned and unmanned vehicle program needs in multiple marine environments.

Purpose: To provide range operating areas for existing and new range operations in the Pacific Northwest adjacent to NUWC Division, Keyport facilities.

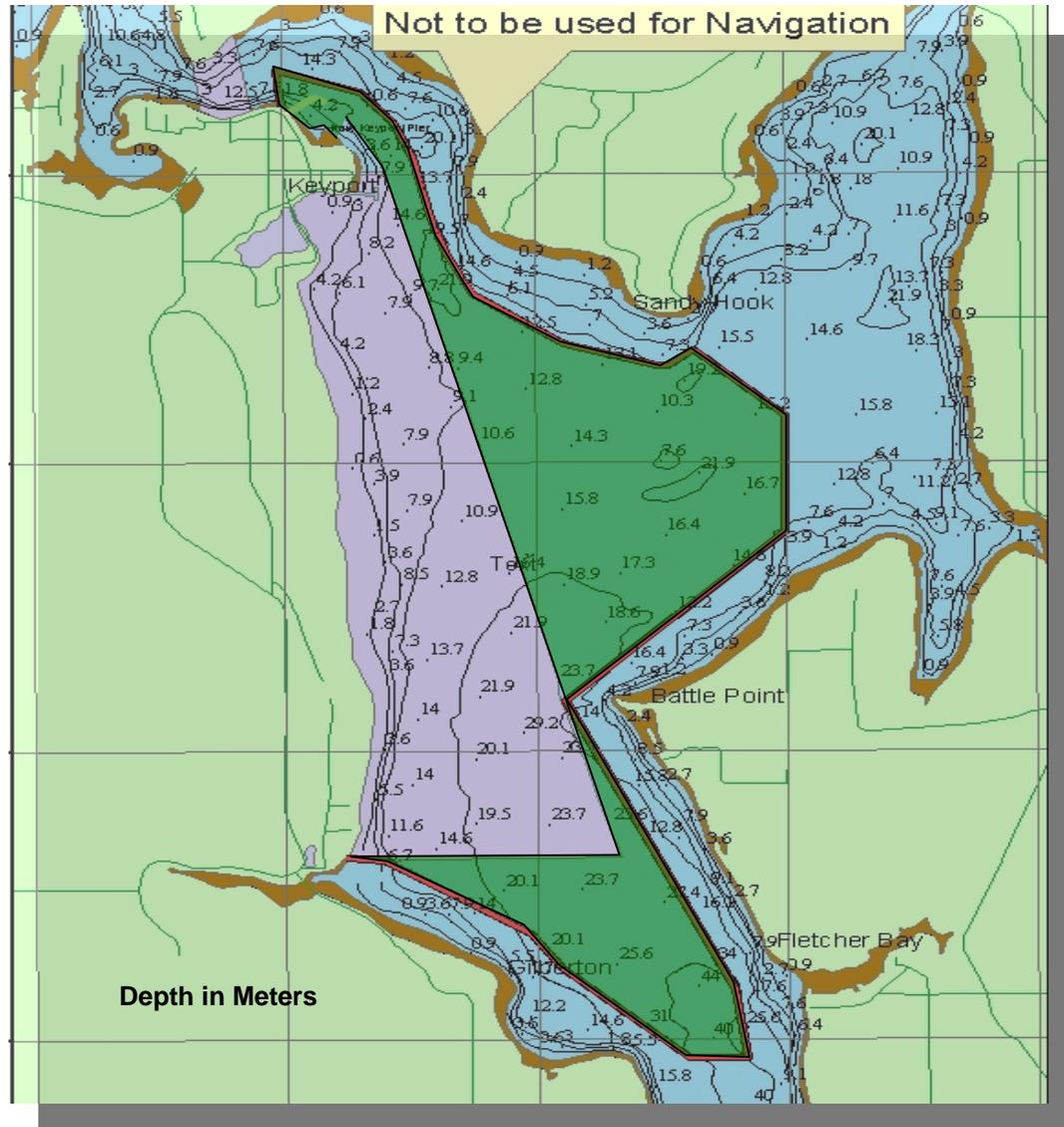
Need:

- Test and evaluation services in both surrogate and simulated war-fighting environments to accommodate new mission criteria.
- Adequate testing area and volume in multiple marine environments.

KEYPORT RANGE SITE

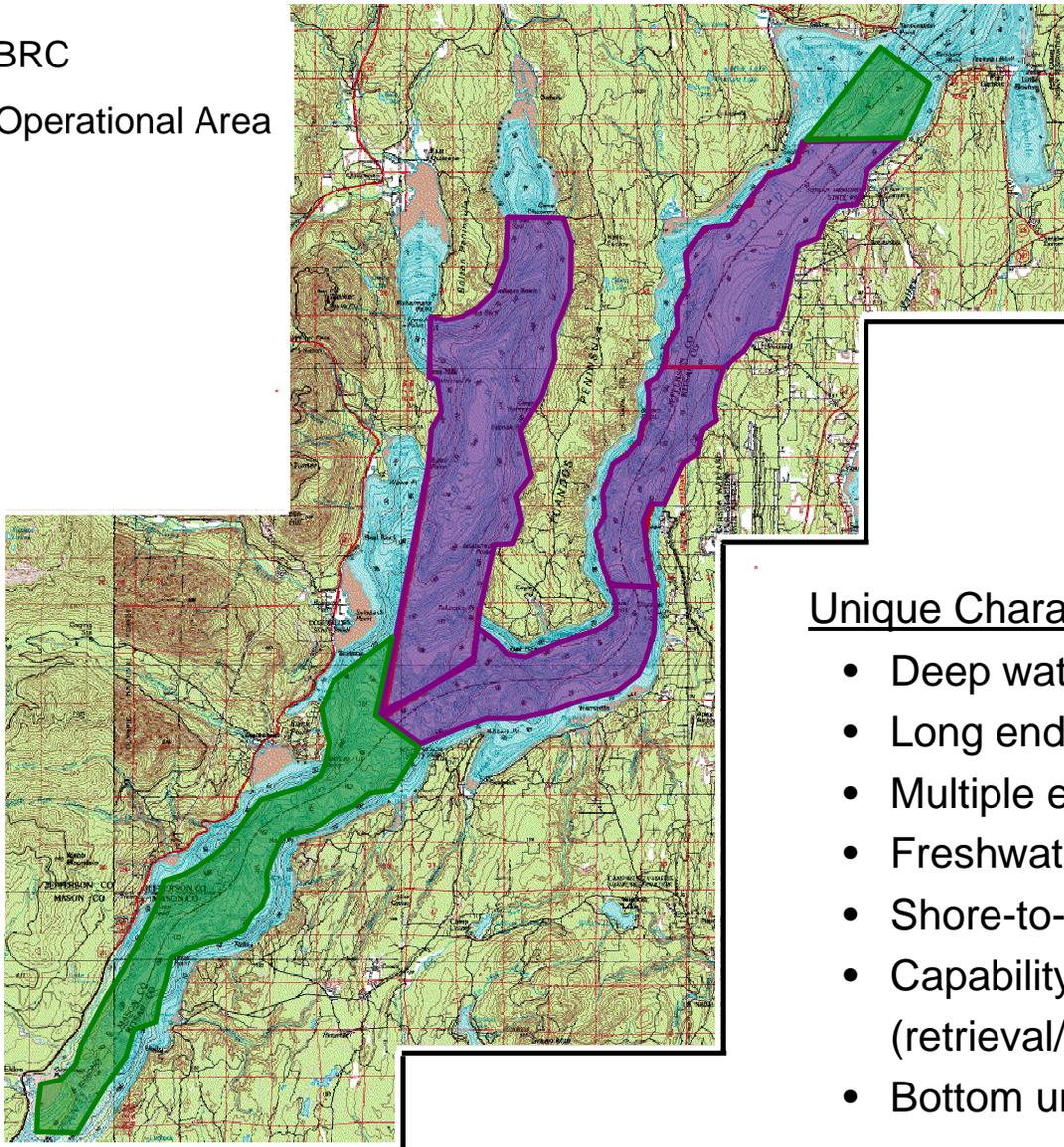
Unique Characteristics

- Shallow/sloping water
- UUV shore based maintenance facility
- Access to pier
- Mild bottom slope for target shapes
- Real world commercial traffic
- Shore-to-shore surveillance
- Capability for barge access (retrieval/moorage)
- Bottom unique from other sites



DABOB BAY RANGE COMPLEX (DBRC)

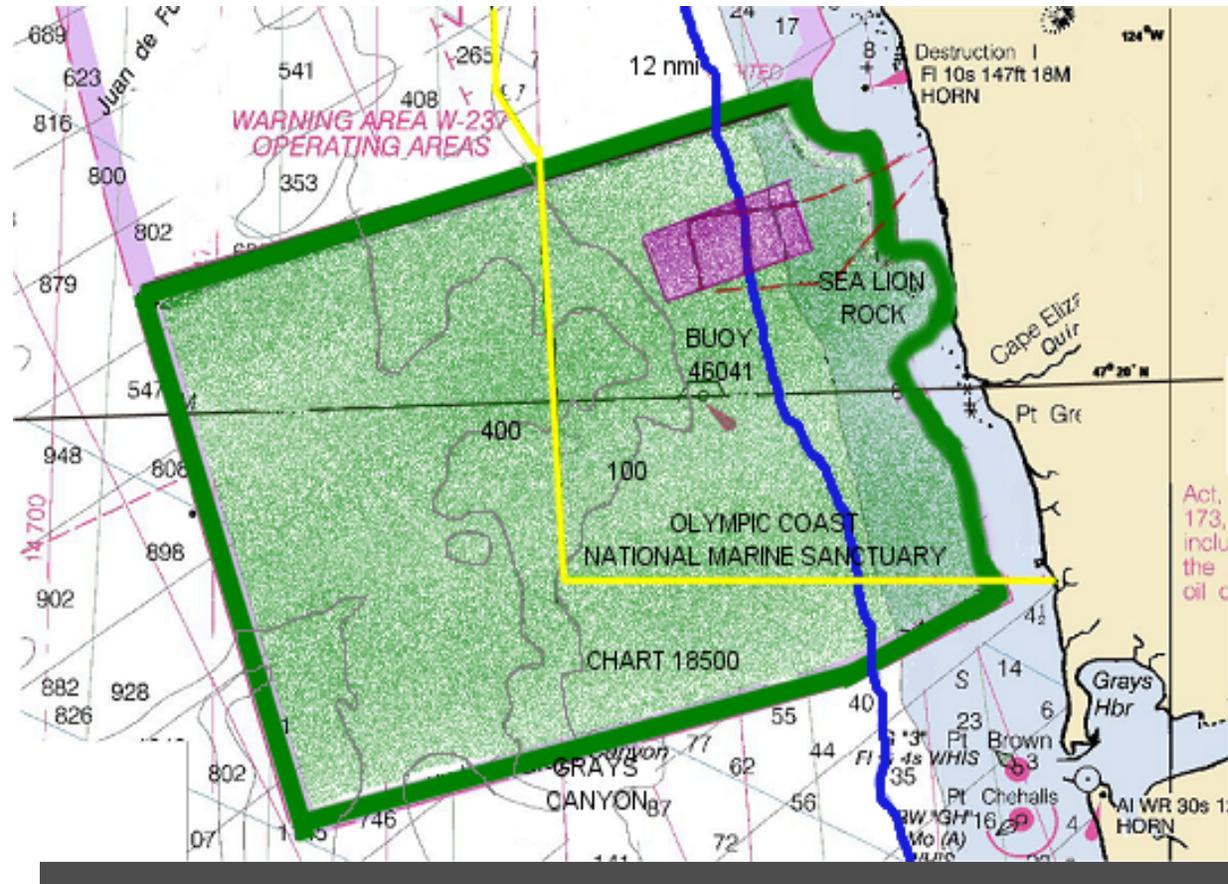
-  Existing DBRC
-  Proposed Operational Area Extension



Unique Characteristics

- Deep water
- Long endurance runs
- Multiple environments
- Freshwater sources
- Shore-to-shore surveillance
- Capability for barge access (retrieval/moorage)
- Bottom unique from other sites

QUINAULT RANGE



Unique Characteristics

- Surf zone access
- Large distances with multiple depths
- Supports air ops
- Maneuvering space for multiple Fleet Assets
- Bottom unique from other sites

Notes:

1. Less suitable for permanent bottom mounted equipment due to dynamic sand bottom.
2. Area outside 12NM will require OEIS per EO 12114.
3. Proposed extension is into existing Navy Warning Area



Existing Range



Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary



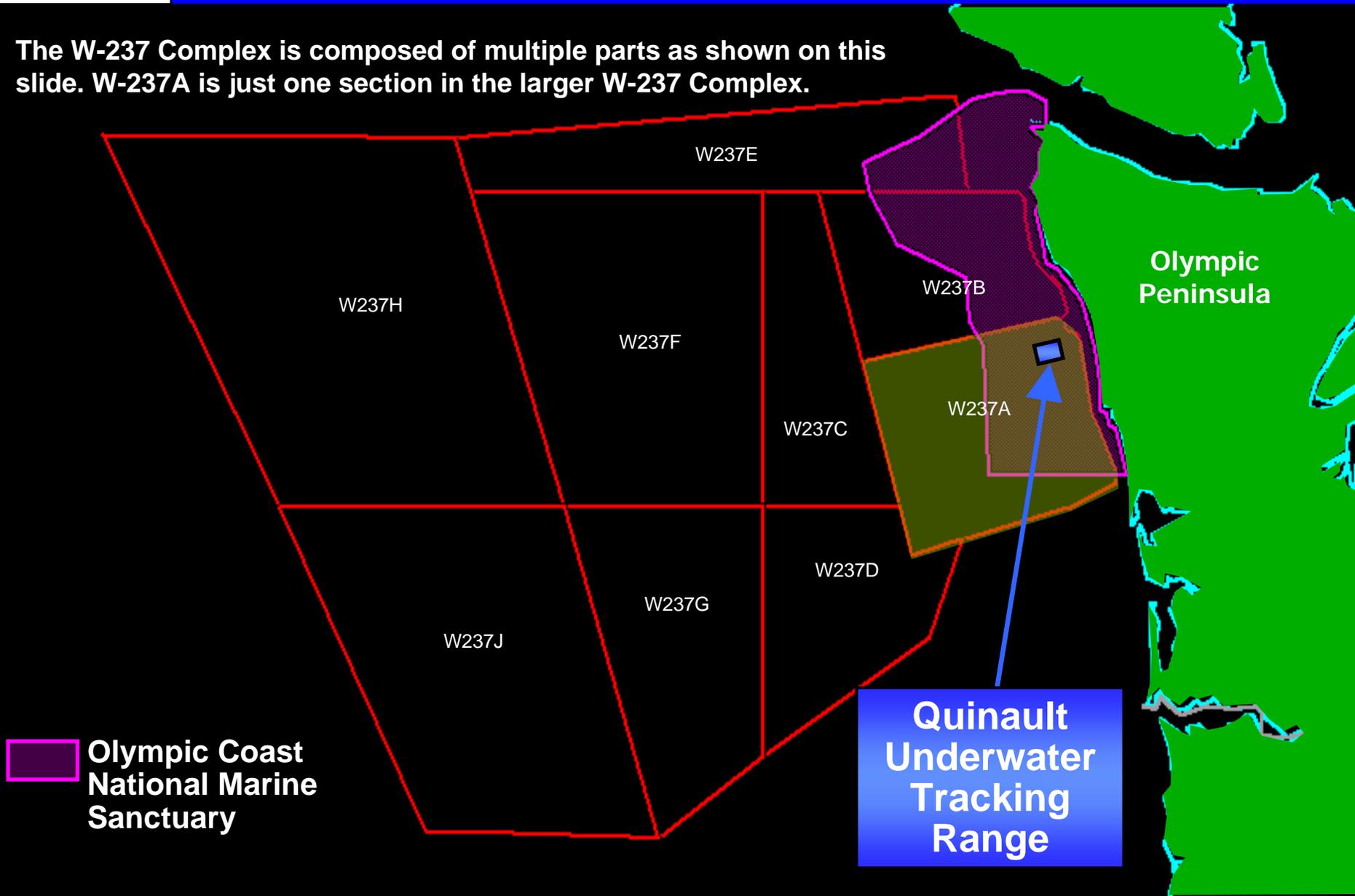
Proposed Operational Area Extension



Twelve nautical mile limit

W237 COMPLEX with SANCTUARY OVERLAY

The W-237 Complex is composed of multiple parts as shown on this slide. W-237A is just one section in the larger W-237 Complex.

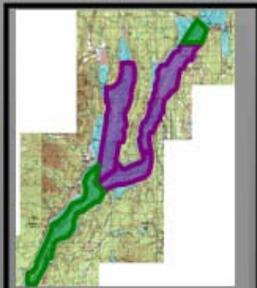


PROPOSED ALTERNATIVES

This slide provides a graphic display of four alternatives.

- Alternatives 1 through 3 are focused on existing and new activities
- The No Action alternative is to continue activities carried out at existing operating areas.
- All the alternatives will be further refined in the Draft EIS/OEIS

Alternative 1



**With DBRC
Shallow Water
Analysis**

Alternative 2



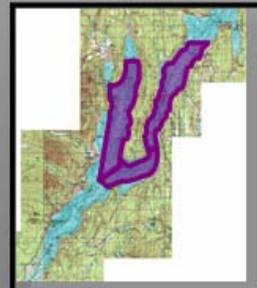
**Without DBRC
Shallow Water
Analysis**

Alternative 3



**With DBRC
Shallow Water
Analysis**

No Action Alternative



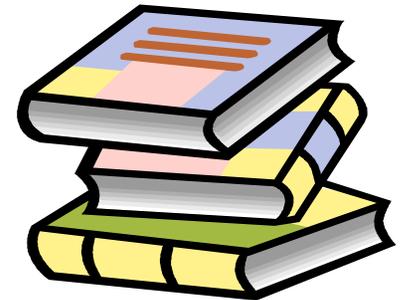
**Without DBRC
Shallow Water
Analysis**

- Information in an EIS Document:

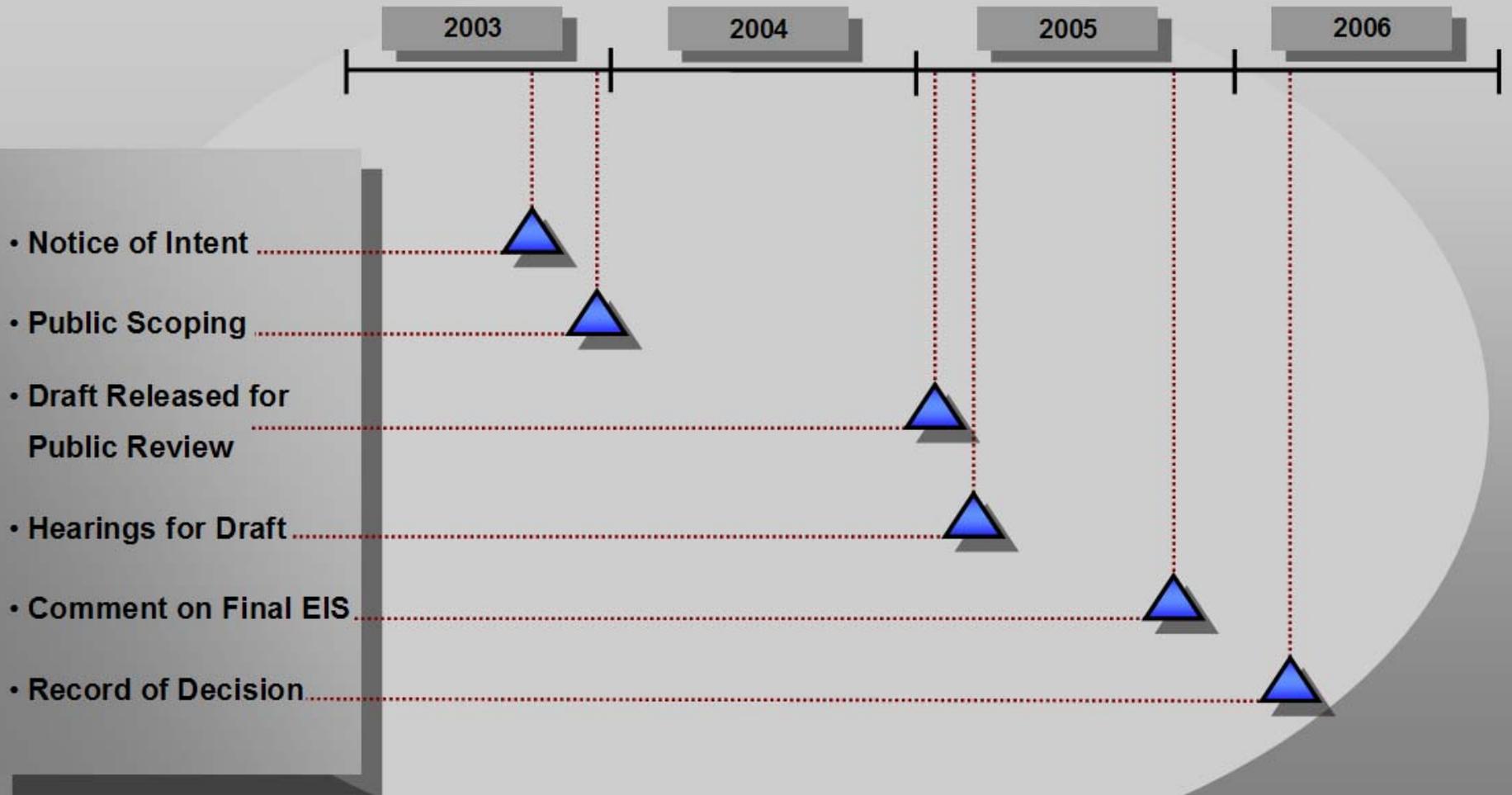
- Purpose and Need of Proposed Action
- Range of Reasonable Alternatives including the No Action Alternative
- Existing Environment / Condition
- Environmental Consequences of Proposed Action and any Mitigation Measures
- Cumulative And Long Term Impacts

- Existing and Relevant NEPA Documents:

- Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary EIS, November 1993
 - Includes information on Navy operations allowed within the Sanctuary
- AUV Fest EA / Keyport Range, August 2003
 - Written for the Autonomous Underwater Vehicle Fest which was held on the NUWC Keyport Range during August of 2003
- Dabob Bay Range Complex EA, June 2002
 - Written for range operations that occur within Dabob Bay Range and the Hood Canal Military Operating Areas located near the Naval Submarine Base, Bangor.
- Keyport Pier 1 EA, December 2000
 - Written for the demolition of two pre-WWII wood and creosote-piled piers located on the shore of NUWC Keyport and the construction of one new steel and concrete pier.



NORTHWEST RANGE COMPLEX EIS/OEIS PROPOSED TIMELINE



SCOPING PROCESS OVERVIEW

SCOPING MEETINGS / BRIEFINGS

- **Notice Of Intent to Prepare EIS / OEIS published in the Federal Register, September 11, 2003**
- **Scoping period From Sept. 11, 2003 to Dec. 5, 2003**
 - Comment Period Extended to Jan. 9, 2004
- **Four Scoping Meetings Held (Open House Format)**
 - Kitsap County, Nov. 17, 2003
 - Mason County, Nov. 18, 2003
 - Jefferson County, Nov. 19, 2003
 - Grays Harbor County, Nov. 20, 2003



Briefings:

- **Federal Agencies:** National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries (Habitat), NOAA Marine Mammals, NOAA Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary, US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Parks Service, US EPA Region 10
- **Native Americans: (To initiate Government to Government Consultations)** Suquamish Tribe, Skokomish Tribe, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, Lower Elwha Klallam, Port Gamble S'Klallam, Point No Point Treaty Council, Hoh Tribe, Quinault Indian Nation, Quileute Tribe
- **State Agencies:** Washington Department of Natural Resources, Washington Department of Ecology, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- **Congressional Representatives:** Congressman Norm Dicks' staff (WA-6th), Congressman Jay Inslee's staff (WA-1st), Senator Patty Murray's staff (WA), and Senator Maria Cantwell's staff (WA)

- Northwest Range Complex EIS/OEIS Web Site

http://www-keyport.kpt.nuwc.navy.mil/EIS_Home.htm

- Provides information on the following:
 - Related Documents
 - Calendar of Events
 - Links

- Written comments

- Mail to:
Commander, Engineering Field Activity NW
Naval Facilities Engineering command
19917 7th Ave NE
Poulsbo, WA 98370
Attn: Code 05EC3 (K. Kler)

- Email to:
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