

cleanup of installation remediation sites.

The DoN is initiating a 30-day scoping period to receive comments on the scope of the EIS, including the range of actions, alternatives, and environmental concerns that should be addressed. Public scoping meetings will be held in the City of Concord, California, to provide information and receive written comments on the scope of the EIS. Federal, state, and local agencies and interested individuals are encouraged to comment on the scope of the EIS or attend the public scoping meetings. To be most helpful, scoping comments should clearly describe specific issues or topics that the commenter believes the EIS should address.

Comments can be made in the following ways: (1) Written comments at the scheduled public scoping meetings; or (2) written comments mailed to the DoN BRAC PMO address in this notice; or (3) written comments faxed to the DoN BRAC PMO fax number in this notice; or (4) comments submitted via email using the DoN BRAC PMO email address in this notice.

Written comments must be postmarked, faxed, or emailed by midnight Friday, April 19, 2013, and sent to: Director, NAVFAC BRAC PMO West, Attn: Mr. Ronald Bochenek, 1455 Frazee Road, Suite 900, San Diego, California 92108-4310, telephone 619-532-0906, fax 619-532-9858, email: [ronald.bochenek.ctr@navy.mil](mailto:ronald.bochenek.ctr@navy.mil).

Requests for special assistance, sign language interpretation for the hearing impaired, language interpreters, or other auxiliary aids for the scheduled public scoping meetings must be sent by mail or email by Friday, March 29, 2013 to the address provided in this notice.

**C.K. Chiappetta,**

*Lieutenant Commander, Office of the Judge Advocate General, U.S. Navy, Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2013-05925 Filed 3-13-13; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3810-FF-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Navy

#### **Notice of Intent To Prepare the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Joint Military Training Environmental Impact Statement/ Overseas Environmental Impact Statement**

**AGENCY:** Department of the Navy, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to section (102)(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy

Act (NEPA) of 1969, as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations parts 1500-1508), and Executive Order 12114, and United States (U.S.) Marine Corps NEPA implementing regulations in Marine Corps Order P5090.2A, Marine Corps Forces, Pacific (MARFORPAC), as the Executive Agent designated by the U.S. Pacific Command (PACOM), announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Overseas EIS (OEIS) to evaluate the potential impacts associated with preliminary alternatives for meeting PACOM Service Components' unfilled unit level and combined level military training requirements in the Western Pacific. The proposed action is to establish a series of live-fire and maneuver Ranges and Training Areas (RTAs) within the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) to meet this purpose.

Existing Department of Defense (DoD) RTAs and support facilities in the Western Pacific, particularly those in the Mariana Islands, are insufficient to support PACOM Service Components' U.S. Code (U.S.C.) Title 10 training requirements for the region. The expansion of existing RTAs and construction of new RTAs will satisfy identified training deficiencies for PACOM forces that are based in or regularly train in the CNMI. These RTAs will be available to U.S. forces and their allies on a continuous and uninterrupted schedule. These RTAs are needed to support ongoing operational requirements, changes to U.S. force structure and geographic positioning of forces, and U.S. training relationships with allied nations.

MARFORPAC, as the Executive Agent, has invited the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA); International Broadcasting Bureau (IBB); U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; National Marine Fisheries Service; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and U.S. Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs, to participate as cooperating agencies in the preparation of the EIS/OEIS. MARFORPAC has also developed a Memorandum of Understanding with the military services regarding their support and engagement in the development of the EIS/OEIS.

MARFORPAC encourages governmental agencies, private-sector organizations, and the general public to participate in the NEPA process for the EIS/OEIS. MARFORPAC is initiating the scoping process for the EIS/OEIS with this Notice of Intent (NOI). Scoping assists MARFORPAC in identifying community concerns and specific issues to be addressed in the EIS/OEIS. All

interested parties are invited to attend the scoping meetings and are encouraged to provide comments. MARFORPAC will consider these comments in determining the scope of the EIS/OEIS.

**DATES:** Three public scoping meetings, using an open-house format, will be held on the following dates and locations in the CNMI:

- Wednesday, April 10, 2013, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Dandan Elementary School Cafeteria, Dandan Road, Dandan, Saipan, CNMI 96960
- Thursday, April 11, 2013, 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Tinian Gym, San Jose, Tinian, CNMI 96950
- Friday, April 12, 2013, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Carolinian Utt, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI 96960

Concurrent with the NEPA process, MARFORPAC is initiating National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Consultation to determine the potential effects of the proposed action on historic properties. During each of the above meetings, MARFORPAC will hold Section 106 meetings in a separate area where subject matter experts will explain the Section 106 process and solicit public input on the identification of historic properties and potential effects of the proposed action on historic properties.

Comments on the proposed action and preliminary alternatives may be submitted during the 45-day public scoping comment period. Comments should be postmarked or received by April 29, 2013, Chamorro Standard Time (ChST). There are three ways to submit written comments: (1) providing comments at one of the public scoping meetings; (2) submitting comments through the project Web site: [www.cnmijointmilitarytrainingeis.com](http://www.cnmijointmilitarytrainingeis.com); and (3) mailing comments to the following address: Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Pacific, Attn: EV21, CNMI Joint Military Training EIS/OEIS Project Manager, 258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100, JBPHH, HI 96860-3134.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Please visit the project Web site or contact the CNMI Joint Military Training EIS/OEIS Project Manager by telephone at 808-472-1253 or by email via the project Web site. Please submit requests for special assistance, sign language interpretation for the hearing impaired, or other auxiliary aids needed at the public scoping open house to the Project Manager by March 25, 2013.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The U.S. military is charged with upholding the U.S. Constitution, defending the United

States from all enemies foreign and domestic, and honoring commitments made in treaties and other international agreements. In particular, five of the seven treaties of mutual defense involve the Western Pacific. In order to accomplish these missions, Title 10 of the U.S.C. requires the Services to maintain, train, and equip combat-ready forces capable of winning wars, deterring aggression, and maintaining freedom of the seas. Modern warfare and security operations are complex undertakings, and U.S. military personnel must train regularly to maintain the necessary skills required to accomplish their constitutional and statutory mandates.

Beginning in 2009 with the Institute for Defense Analyses' (IDA) "Department of Defense Training in the Pacific Study," and culminating in the January 2013 DoN Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Joint Military Training Requirements and Siting Study (RSS), DoD has documented joint military training deficiencies throughout the PACOM Area of Responsibility (AOR), and specifically within the CNMI. The 2009 IDA Study examined training capabilities utilized by the DoD in the PACOM AOR and concluded that current training deficiencies exist. The IDA study examined several potential solutions and concluded that the Mariana Islands' strategic location in the PACOM AOR makes these islands a prime location to support forces throughout the AOR. The IDA Study recommended that planning be initiated to analyze the ability to construct new, or expand existing training capabilities and support facilities in the Mariana Islands.

The need for joint service training in the Western Pacific was also recognized in the 2010 Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR). Specifically, the QDR concluded that the U.S. should develop additional training capabilities for joint and combined forces in the Western Pacific to assure readiness of U.S. forces to carry out military operations as well as humanitarian assistance, disaster relief, and maritime security. Furthermore, the QDR found that the available land within U.S. jurisdiction in the Pacific provided the potential for leveraging U.S. engagement with allied and partner militaries to build multilateral security relationships and operational capacity among the countries of the region.

The April 2012 DoN Training Needs Assessment: An Assessment of Current Training Ranges and Supporting Facilities in the U.S. Pacific Command Area of Responsibility further examined

training deficiencies in the Western Pacific by dividing the PACOM AOR into four independent geographic areas or "hubs" representing the largest concentrations of U.S. forces: Japan (including Okinawa), Korea, Hawaii, and the Mariana Islands (Guam/CNMI). The assessment confirmed the earlier findings that the greatest number of training deficiencies exists in the Mariana Islands hub. The CNMI's criticality to providing an environment for joint training and stabilizing influence in the PACOM AOR was specifically mentioned in the April 2012 2+2 Statement between Japan and the U.S. wherein both nations expressed a keen desire to improve training capabilities in the CNMI.

The January 2013 RSS continued the analysis by focusing on those deficiencies found in the Mariana Islands and specifically in the CNMI. Service training operates on a crawl-walk-run continuum progressing from individual skills, to unit level to combined level training. The majority of individual skills training will be accomplished outside of the CNMI. The 42 unfilled training requirements documented in the January 2013 RSS are for unit level and combined level training. Unit level training consists of troops with similar military occupational specialties training on both live-fire and maneuver ranges to develop the skills necessary for the unit to carry out its mission. Combined level arms training brings several units together working as a team towards a single objective. Combined level training also involves maneuver and use of live-fire ranges and training areas; however, because of the greater number of units and tasks, this training requires larger areas. Because of the nature of unit and combined level training, along with the frequency of this training, separate range complexes are required to support each type of training.

The RSS further defined and developed the purpose and need for the proposed action of improving military training capabilities; refined and applied operational siting criteria for assessing preliminary alternatives within the CNMI; and applied those criteria to potential candidate locations within the CNMI in order to meet PACOM Service Components' unfilled training requirements. Of the 14 CNMI islands, the RSS found that only Tinian and Pagan are capable of meeting unit level and combined level screening criteria, and could potentially satisfy most of the unfilled training requirements for the CNMI. Neither Tinian nor Pagan can support all identified unfilled training requirements

alone; however, in combination they present a variety of preliminary alternative RTA configurations.

*Preliminary Alternatives:* As part of this scoping effort, MARFORPAC has developed preliminary alternatives on the islands of Tinian and Pagan to meet the requisite training capabilities and capacity. The EIS/OEIS will also consider any other reasonable alternatives that are identified during the scoping period. MARFORPAC seeks to minimize impacts to non-DoD lands and the environment by establishing multi-purpose ranges with overlapping impact areas and surface danger zones, where possible, on existing DoD-controlled lands.

Preliminary alternatives are the improvement, development, and use of existing and new military training areas on the islands of Tinian and Pagan, to include surrounding U.S. and international water and airspace. With regards to Tinian, preliminary alternatives for unit level training consider laydowns with and without relocating the IBB Voice of America facility. To date, all Tinian preliminary alternatives require the use of all military leased land, including that which has been leased-back to the CNMI government for agricultural uses. For Pagan, all the preliminary alternatives for combined-level training propose using the entire island for military purposes.

Special use airspace will be needed over any island proposed for RTAs and MARFORPAC, as Executive Agent, will seek designation of such airspace in coordination with FAA once a Record of Decision has been completed for the EIS/OEIS. In addition, maritime danger zones may be required along the coastlines adjacent to DoD-controlled property.

Under the No Action Alternative, the proposed RTAs would not be constructed on the islands of Tinian and Pagan. The identified training deficit would persist and the existing Western Pacific RTAs would remain insufficient to support PACOM Service Components' Title 10 training requirements for the region. The No Action Alternative would continue current training activities, which include limited non-tactical live-fire and other non-live fire training, including amphibious warfare and urban warfare activities that are currently approved by DoD Service Components on Tinian and Pagan, as well as the other approved existing RTAs within the CNMI, as well as development of the four ranges on Tinian that were the subject of the 2010 Guam EIS Record of Decision. The No

Action Alternative does not meet the purpose and need of the proposed action.

**Environmental Issues and Resources To Be Examined:** After scoping is complete, the EIS/OEIS analysis will evaluate potential environmental impacts associated with each alternative selected for full analysis. Issues to be addressed include, but are not limited to, noise, cultural resources, transportation, utilities, socioeconomic, biological resources, geology and soils, water quality, air quality, airspace, land use, recreation, safety, hazardous materials and waste, visual resources, and environmental justice.

Resources, activities, and issues identified through the scoping process will be considered in the EIS/OEIS. The analysis will include an evaluation of direct and indirect impacts and will account for cumulative impacts from other relevant past, present and reasonably foreseeable future actions in the Mariana Islands.

**Agency Consultations:** MARFORPAC, as Executive Agent, will undertake appropriate consultations with regulatory entities pursuant to the Endangered Species Act, National Historic Preservation Act, Coastal Zone Management Act, Clean Water Act, and other applicable laws or regulations. Consultation may include, but will not be limited to, the following federal, state, and local agencies: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, National Park Service, CNMI Historic Preservation Office, and the CNMI Coastal Resources Management Office.

**Schedule:** This NOI initiates a 45-day scoping comment period to identify issues to be addressed in the EIS/OEIS and reasonable and feasible alternatives to implement the proposed action. The next step in the NEPA process occurs with publication of a Notice of Availability (NOA) in the **Federal Register** and local media, announcing release of the Draft EIS/OEIS and commencement of a 45-day public comment period. A notice will be published in local newspapers to advertise public scoping meetings for the project during the 45-day comment period. MARFORPAC, as the Executive Agent, will consider and respond to all comments received on the Draft EIS/OEIS when preparing the Final EIS/OEIS. MARFORPAC, as the Executive Agent, intends to issue the Final EIS/OEIS in late 2015, at which time an NOA will be published in the **Federal Register** and local media. The NOA will initiate a 30-day waiting period, after

which the Assistant Secretary of the Navy will issue a Record of Decision.

Dated: March 8, 2013.

**C.K. Chiappetta,**

*Lieutenant Commander, Office of the Judge Advocate General, U.S. Navy, Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2013-05837 Filed 3-13-13; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3810-FF-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Navy

#### Subcommittee Meeting of the Board of Advisors to the President, Naval Postgraduate School

**AGENCY:** Department of the Navy, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of Open Meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the provisions of The Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, as amended), notice is hereby given that the following meeting of the aforementioned subcommittee will be held. (Parent Committee is: Board of Advisors (BOA) to the Presidents of the Naval Postgraduate School and the Naval War College (NPS). This meeting will be open to the public.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 24, 2013, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and on Thursday, April 25, 2013, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Pacific Time Zone.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Naval Postgraduate School, Ingersoll Hall, Room 361, 1 University Circle, Monterey, CA.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Jaye Panza, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA 93943-5001, telephone number 831-656-2514.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of the meeting is to elicit the advice of the Board on the Naval Service's Postgraduate Education Program and the collaborative exchange and partnership between NPS and the Air Force Institute of Technology. The board examines the effectiveness with which the NPS is accomplishing its mission. To this end, the board will inquire into the curricula; instruction; physical equipment; administration; state of morale of the student body, faculty, and staff; fiscal affairs; and any other matters relating to the operation of the NPS as the board considers pertinent. Individuals without a DoD government/CAC card require an escort at the meeting location. For access, information, or to send written comments regarding the NPS BOA contact Ms. Jaye Panza, Designated

Federal Officer, Naval Postgraduate School, 1 University Circle, Monterey, CA 93943-5001 or by fax 831-656-3145 by April 16, 2013.

**C.K. Chiappetta,**

*Lieutenant Commander, Office of the Judge Advocate General, U.S. Navy, Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2013-05926 Filed 3-13-13; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3810-FF-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Docket No. ED-2013-ICCD-0029]

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Comment Request; Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) 2013-2016

**AGENCY:** National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), Institute of Education Sciences (IES), ED.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), ED is proposing a revision of a current information collection.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before May 13, 2013.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments submitted in response to this notice should be submitted electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov> by selecting Docket ID number ED-2013-ICCD-0029 or via postal mail, commercial delivery, or hand delivery. Please note that comments submitted by fax or email and those submitted after the comment period will not be accepted. Written requests for information or comments submitted by postal mail or delivery should be addressed to the Director of the Information Collection Clearance Division, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW., LBJ Room 2E117, Washington, DC 20202-4537.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Electronically mail [ICDocketMgr@ed.gov](mailto:ICDocketMgr@ed.gov). Please do not send comments here.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that Federal agencies provide interested parties an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. The Director, Information Collection Clearance Division, Privacy, Information and Records Management Services, Office of Management, publishes this notice containing proposed information collection requests at the beginning of the Departmental review of the