

*Given the lack of data, level of risk and uncertainty of how the Navy's training can impact our environment, please share with us your thoughts on the following:*

**1. What are your socioeconomic concerns? Impacts on livelihood and subsistence resources?**

I take people out to see the natural world. The lack of migrating whales and fish and birds would diminish the quality of their trips. It's not just my business but also how and why I live here: clean water and wildlife. It is integral and connected to the business.

**2. What are your concerns of how the Navy trainings in May could impact your family, lifestyle, and community?**

The potential for an accident; pollution; shutting down fisheries. This is stressful, impacting our lives. They classify certain things and don't want to talk about, so they hide anything under the umbrella of National Security. What are they using in the exercise? What are they carrying on the trip? How much used munitions and debris will be disposed of out there? How much radioactive material is in the munitions? There are no contingency plans for an accident as there are for cruise ships and fish processors. I am not aware of the U.S. Navy's Spill Plan and membership with a regional spill response organization.

The U.S. Coast Guard trains offshore using pyrotechnics and munitions. I understand the need. It is a cheap way to get rid of out of date munitions and flares. Rather than pay to recycle or dispose of a weapon, a hazardous material, the government finds it is cheaper to blast it off in someone's backyard (e.g., our water). The pollution leaches into the environment. How much does it impact our wildlife? They say one thing and you can't believe anything they say because of what they won't share.

**3. Regarding the timing, what do you think about the Navy saying they will train in the beginning of May?**

There is no good time for this sort of thing in nearshore waters. The potential impacts are taken to an extreme the closer you get to the rich waters of the continental shelf. The sea lions, orca, humpbacks, forage fish, king salmon, are present in the winter. Winter training will impact plankton and forage fish. Their location is based on convenience and cost savings. Why train during the nicest, calmest period? Wars are not fought on bluebird days.

**4. What do you think is an ideal outcome or solution? For the Navy to move their timing as the communities have requested? For the Navy to not train at all?**

Navy training and marine wildlife can coexist. That can happen only if the U.S. Navy is serious about its role as marine steward and minimize potential harm. In this case, that means moving the activity to fall and winter months, as requested. Move the activity further away from shore. As part of this, it is essential that the U.S. Navy integrate this commitment to 2017 and future exercises. Right now, under scrutiny from the community, the U.S. Navy has been making some verbal concessions, which are not backed up by legal commitment and only reflected for 2017. The U.S. Navy may be hoping communities will take their eye off the ball. People who care about the Gulf of Alaska, salmon, wildlife in this extraordinary place will continue to demand that the U.S. Navy be consistent with the health of the Gulf of Alaska. People in Gulf of Alaska know well how to conserve it, U.S. Navy needs to learn from them by listening to what communities are telling them.