



Quietskies

Over San Juan County

Update: September 30, 2018

GREETINGS:

The Navy's **Final Environmental Impact Statement**, which adds 36 additional Growlers to the Naval Air Base on Whidbey Island, was published Friday, September 28, 2018. <http://www.whidbeyeis.com/>

The 36 new Growlers will be added to the 82 existing and the result will be 47 percent more noise.

No surprise, the Preferred Alternative 2A was chosen. The Navy says : "No decision has yet been made. The ultimate decision with respect to force structure and Field Carrier Landing Practice (FCLP) distribution will be made by the Secretary of the Navy or his representative and announced in a Record of Decision no earlier than 30 days following today's public release of the Final EIS."

WHAT THIS "MAY" MEAN FOR SAN JUAN COUNTY:

Ault Field, 12 miles from San Juan County, will support 88,000 total airfield operations - an increase of 9,800 operations over current conditions.

Alternative 2A places 80 percent of all Field Carrier Landing practice at the Outlying Field at Coupeville (OLF). San Juan County will hear all Growler traffic going from Ault Field to OLF and then returning from OLF.

San Juan County will have a slight reduction in the Blasting and Roaring from FCLP's at Ault Field, but will "probably" have an increase of overflights over our county. This increase, due to more traffic, will reach further north and impact N. Lopez and N. San Juan and Shaw and Orcas Islands.

WHAT THIS "MAY" MEAN FOR OUR REGION:

COUPEVILLE AREA: Under Alternative 2A, the Coupeville area will experience 24,100 annual operations, an increase of 17,590 operations per year. This is a heavy blow to the Coupeville and Oak Harbor areas that have already had their water contaminated by Navy fire fighting foam (perfluoroalkyl).

OLYMPIC PENINSULA: ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELDS + NOISE: On the Olympic Peninsula animals and humans will be exposed to potentially high levels of electromagnetic fields from the proposed 14 moveable emitters. Training may be conducted 260 days a year up to 16 hours a day. Although the Navy claims there are no significant adverse impacts, it admits that the exercises will produce radiation that could burn or injure someone if exposed more than 15 minutes. In addition, the Navy has not been clear about the noise levels that will be generated by 3 Growlers flying in formation over the Electromagnetic Warfare Training area.

People in the region (Skagit, Island, San Juan, Jefferson and Clallam Counties) have a spectrum of views about the military but many agree that military activity in the region should respect the land, the sea, the sky, animal life, marine life, people and the economy of ALL communities.

WHAT CAN WE DO?

We need to tell Senators Murray and Cantwell and Governor Inslee that we've had enough. . . We are not willing to be COLLATERAL DAMAGE for the Growler Mission.

We do not want THIS BEAUTIFUL PLACE WE CALL HOME TO BE A NAVY WAR TRAINING ZONE.

We need their IMMEDIATE HELP to stop Navy expansion in our region.

The U.S. Navy is DEGRADING OUR QUALITY OF LIFE and the peace and quiet of our exceptional natural environment.

We are saying "No! to the 36 additional GROWLERS!"

We are saying "YES! to QUIET SKIES and QUIET SEAS".

START HERE:

JOIN US ON OCTOBER 3, 2:30 pm for a SHORT REGION-WIDE MEDIA EVENT.

On Lopez Island we will be gathering at 2:30 at the Farmers Market site in Lopez Village. It's a PHOTO SHOOT.

WE NEED A CROWD to show our support for the new SOUND DEFENSE ALLIANCE - 5 COUNTIES - ONE VOICE opposing Navy expansion in our region. Heather Harrison will be the photographer and we may even have some drone coverage from above.

We have a 15 foot banner, a bunch of STOP GROWLING signs and would welcome your hand painted signs. Bring your friends, your phones, take pictures and share them on Social Media. We'll have cards to send to Murray, Cantwell and Inslee.

IT'S TIME TO SHOW UP and SPEAK UP!

Thanks to each of you for continuing to file jet noise reports !

sjcgis.org/aircraft-noise-reporting/