



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS 96TH AIR BASE WING (AFMC)
EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE FLORIDA

CEIVE

FEB 28 2007

Mr. Stephen M. Seiber
Chief, Natural Resources Section
501 De Leon Street, Suite 101
Eglin AFB FL 32542-5133

21 FEB 2007

Mr. Steve Leathery
Office of Protected Resources
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3226

Dear Mr. Leathery:

This report is submitted as a summary of the following activities: Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) use of the Eglin Gulf Test and Training Range (EGTTR) and the Naval Explosive Ordnance Disposal School (NEODS) Training (Five Year Plan and Incidental Harassment Authorization).

EGTTR

Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) use of the Eglin Gulf Test and Training Range (EGTTR) as stated in the Biological Opinion [Consultation No. F/SER/2003/00201] issued on October 20, 2004 by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) under the terms and conditions of the Incidental Harassment Authorization (IHA) issued May 3, 2006, the Air Force must track the use of the EGTTR for AC-130 test firing missions relative to expendables and protected resources observations, through the use of mission reporting forms and provide a summary report of this information to the NMFS Southeast Regional Office.

Two test missions were planned in the EGTTR during calendar year 2006. The first mission was on September 7, 2006. The second mission was on September 22, 2006, but was aborted due to a sea-state above 3.5.

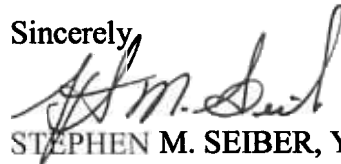
The following is a description of the mission which occurred on September 7, 2006. The mission included live fire in Gulf test area W-151 (A3). The mission occurred at night at latitude N 29° 0' 59.67" and longitude W 86° 35' 13.6" with a water depth of approximately 400 meters. Pre-mission survey was from 20:06 until 20:20. The mission was from 20:20 until 20:40. Post-mission survey was from 20:40 until 20:50. No protected species were observed at any time during the mission activities, therefore we believe this fulfills the requirements as identified in the Incidental Take Statement and no other action is necessary.

NEODS

Eglin Gulf Test and Training Range, Naval Explosive Ordnance Disposal School (NEODS) Training (5-Year Plan) [Consultation No. F/SER/2004/00361] biological opinion issued October 25, 2004 and associated NEODS Incidental Harassment Authorization for the 2006 calendar year issued August 4, 2005 and extension issued October 5, 2006; require a summary report of mission information to the NMFS Southeast Regional Office. No test missions involving the NEODS in the EGTRR occurred during the 2006 calendar year, therefore we believe this fulfills the requirements as identified in the biological opinion and IHA and no other action is necessary.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please do not hesitate to contact either Mr. Bob Miller (850) 883-1153 or myself at (850) 882-8391.

Sincerely,



STEPHEN M. SEIBER, YF-2
Chief, Eglin Natural Resources

Copy to:

Mr. David Bernhart
Assistant Regional Administrator
Protected Resources Division
National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
Southeast Regional Office
263 13th Avenue S
St. Petersburg, FL 33701