



San Clemente Island & San Nicolas Island Naval Restricted Areas

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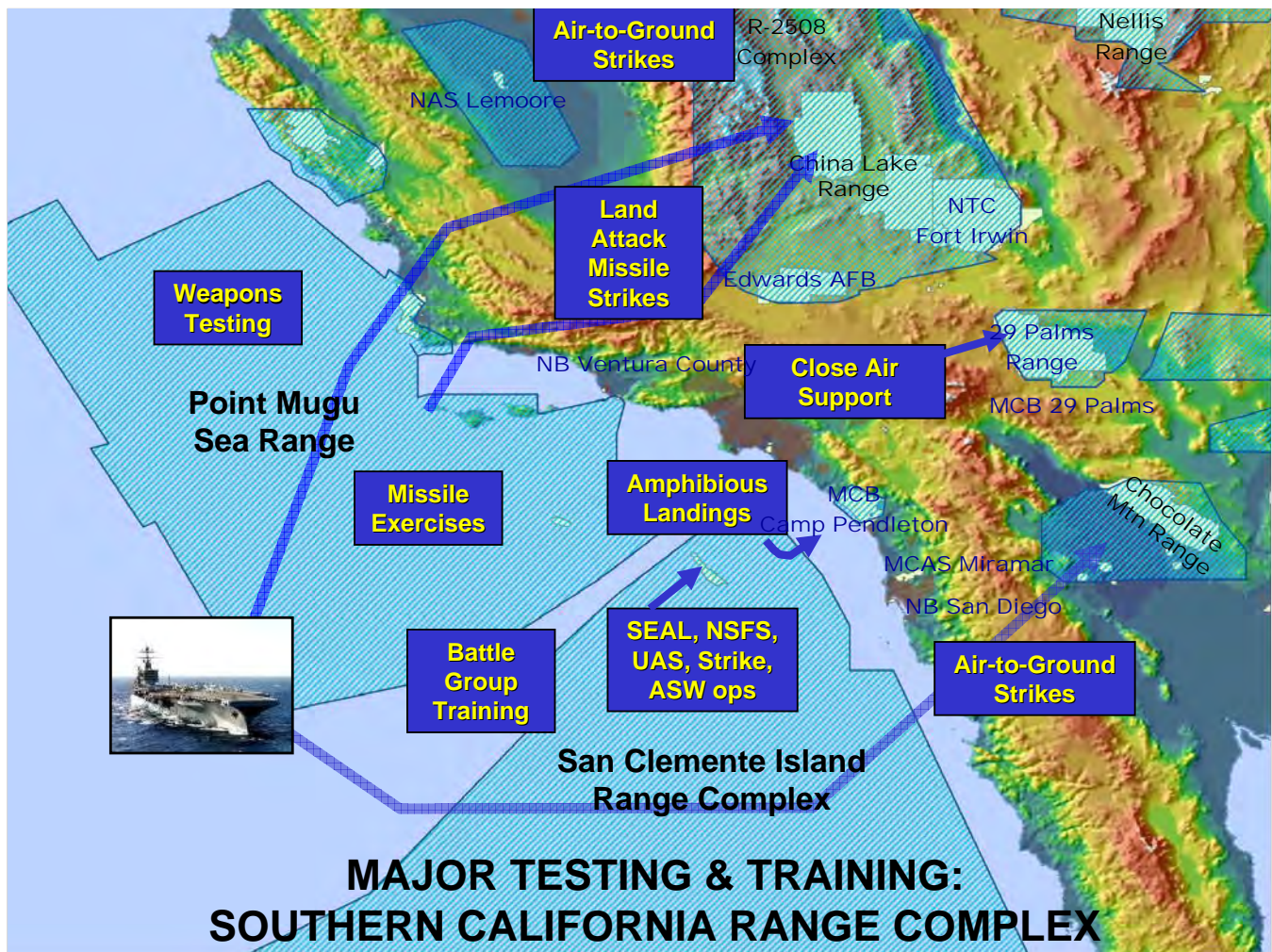
Economic Benefit of the Military in South Coast Region

Active Duty	103,000
DoD Employees	139,000
DoD Retirees	88,000

**Total estimated Economic Impact
\$34.8 Billion Annually**

**With 27.5% of all jobs in
San Diego region attributed
to DoD**





Current Operations Critical Importance to National Security

- **San Clemente Island**
 - **SWAT 1 Safety Zone (Northwest SCI)**
 - Naval Special Warfare (NSW) Military Operations in Urban Terrain (MOUT), Small Arms Range, Land detonations
 - Small craft Over-the-Beach, live-fire insertions/extractions
 - Surface Training Exercises & Air Operations
 - **Wilson Cove Security Zone/Safety Zone (East SCI)**
 - Underwater Research, Development, Tests and Evaluation
 - Small Arms Live Fire Surface Danger Zone
 - Ship Radiated Noise Measurements & Sonobuoy Quality Assurance Tests
- **San Nicolas Island**
 - **Alpha Area Restricted Zone (North SNI)**
 - Missile over-flights and launches

Note: No access allowed in these two Safety Zones. No fishing allowed in this Restricted Zone



Mission Summary

- Maintain our capability to fulfill national security obligations
 - Military Readiness
 - Research, Development, Test and Evaluation
 - Training Ranges
 - Installations
- Consistent with national security mission requirements, promote highest level of environmental stewardship



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DoD Proposal for SCI

- New 100% closed Naval Safety Zones at SCI present a unique “win-win” opportunity
- Combines effective enforcement through safety zones, with excellent environmental management made possible by:
 - SOCAL Range Complex Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
 - Integrated Natural Resource Management Plan (INRMP)
 - Cooperative Research Agreements (CRAs)

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DoD Proposal (cont'd)

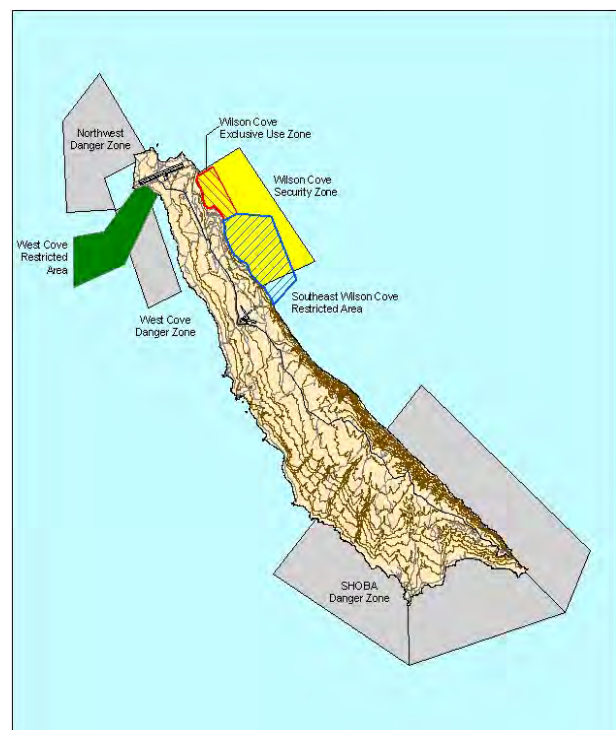
- Consistent with #5 of MLPA Design Considerations
 - “In developing MPA proposals, consider how existing state, local and federal programs address the goals and objectives of the MLPA and south coast region....”
- Safety Zones will be codified into Federal Law
- Near tidal areas managed under INRMP
- SOCAL EIS environmental compliance and mitigation measures in the associated compliance documentation for the SOCAL Range Complex.
- Naval Restricted Areas are NOT MPAs, but will help meet the same goals

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SOCAL Range Complex: National Defense Restricted Areas

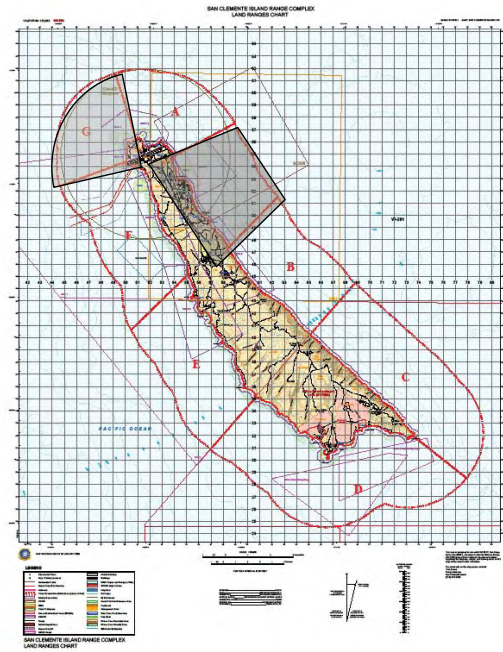
- **A Multidimensional Training Range Environment**
 - All deploying C3F Carrier and Expeditionary Strike Groups train on the SOCAL Range Complex
 - Support s training for all warfare areas and extensive Research, Development, Test and Evaluation
- **Unique training terrain**
 - Ideal mix of shallow (littoral) & deep water training environment and critical shallow water bathymetry
 - Only instrumented deepwater tracking and communication range for ship, air and submarine anti-submarine warfare (extension into shallow water shelf)
 - Supports unique Expeditionary Training Exercises for Marine Corps unit level and joint amphibious operations
 - Unique airfield terrain supports only location for Fleet Carrier Landing Practice (FCLP)
 - Extensive military airspace (including Class D)
 - Unique sea to land configuration for live-fire SEAL team full mission profiles
- **Close proximity to Fleet homeports and military families, air stations, and bases in San Diego and other training ranges in the Southwest**





Operational Requirement to Expand Offshore Restrictions at San Clemente Island

- Entire Island will be surrounded by Safety Zones
- Shaded Areas will be closed 100% of the time for operational reasons
- Non-Shaded Areas will be closed part of the time and managed via SCI website
- Will be noticed in Federal Register and expected to go into effect mid-2009
- Shaded Areas are NOT MPAs, but will help meet MLPA goals



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USCG Safety Zone

Def: A *Safety Zone* is a water area, shore area, or water and shore area to which, for safety or environmental purposes, *access is limited to authorized persons, vehicles, or vessels* (33 Code of Federal Regulations § 165.20)

General regulations (33 Code of Federal Regulations § 165.23)

- (a) No person may **enter** a safety zone unless authorized by the COTP or the District Commander;
- (b) No person may bring or cause to be brought into a safety zone any **vehicle, vessel, or object** unless authorized by the COTP or the District Commander;
- (c) No person may **remain** in a safety zone or allow any vehicle, vessel, or object to remain in a safety zone unless authorized by the COTP or the District Commander; and
- (d) Each person in a safety zone who has notice of a lawful order or direction **shall obey the order or direction** of the COTP or District Commander issued to carry out the purposes of this subpart.



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Safety Zone Enforcement



- Enforcement options:
 - US Coast Guard (San Diego Office, District 11 & PacArea)
 - Commanding Officer Naval Base Coronado
 - Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between USCG and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Dept



Environmental Benefits

Restricting public access in the areas designated as federal military Safety Zones would support the goals of the MLPA through the protection of marine resources.





SOCAL Range Complex EIS

- Environmental Compliance – analyzed 16 resource areas, including cumulative impacts and appropriate mitigation:
 - (1) geology/soils; (2) air quality; (3) hazardous materials and wastes; (4) water resources; (5) acoustic environment (in air and water); (6) marine plants and invertebrates; (7) fish (sonar, underwater detonations, essential fish habitat); (8) sea turtles (sonar, underwater detonations, ship strikes, live fire); (9) marine mammals (sonar, underwater detonations, ship strikes); (10) seabirds; (11) terrestrial biological resources; (12) cultural resources; (13) traffic; (14) socioeconomics; (15) environmental justice/protection of children; (16) public safety.
- ROD signed 21 Jan 09 – culmination of a 12-year effort at a cost of approx \$10 million

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SOCAL EIS (cont'd)

- Compliance with Environmental Laws (not inclusive)
 - Marine Mammal Protection Act
 - Endangered Species Act (marine and terrestrial)
 - Coastal Zone Management Act
 - Migratory Bird Treaty Act
 - Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act
 - Rivers and Harbors Act
 - Clean Water and Clean Air Acts
 - National Historic Preservation Act

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SOCAL EIS (cont'd)

- Mitigation pertinent to protection of marine environment
 - Navy studies on sedimentation/erosion associated with watersheds and appropriate management practices to protect water resources
 - Fish – buffer zones around kelp beds, avoidance of hard-bottom habitats/floating plants/algal mats, implementation of long-term near shore monitoring program
 - Sea turtles – exclusion zones for underwater detonation activities, SOP to prevent ship strikes, live-fire mitigation measures
 - Marine Mammals – extensive mitigation measures (see EIS/ROD)
 - Sea/migratory birds – procedures to eliminate bird strike hazards, controlled demolition activities
- No significant adverse impacts to birds or sea turtles, no long-term impact to marine plants or invertebrates, no long-term changes to species abundance or diversity, no loss or degradation of sensitive habitats
- EFH (NMFS) – With mitigation, no significant short or long-term impacts
- ESA(NMFS/FWS) – Biological Opinion/not likely to jeopardize existence
- MMPA (NMFS) – Letter of Authorization/least practicable adverse impact

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SCI Natural Resources Management, INRMPS, & CRAs

- **Natural Resources Management Program**
- Primarily dictated through our Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan or INRMP
 - An INRMP is an ecosystem-based plan that addresses the conservation of natural resources while ensuring minimal impact to the military mission
 - INRMP addresses marine environment out to 300 yards
 - Currently funded for revision (incorporate SOCAL EIS)
- Current marine program includes T&E species surveys & habitat monitoring
 - Black and White Abalone Surveys
 - Marine Mammal Surveys
 - Intertidal, Subtidal, Kelp Forest Surveys
 - Bight '08
- **Cooperative Research Agreements or CRAs**
 - Mechanism for researchers to conduct research on CNRSW installations including SCI
- **Waters around San Clemente Island are already designated as an Area of Special Biological Significance**

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DoD Proposal for SNI

- Use existing restricted area ALPHA
- Under current regulations, fishing is prohibited in area ALPHA and will now be enforced
- No new regulations needed
- Naval Restricted Areas are NOT MPAs, but will meet the same goals

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Current Offshore Restricted Areas at San Nicolas Island

33 CFR 334.980 - Pacific Ocean; around San Nicolas Island, Calif., Naval Restricted Area.

§ B(2)(a) “The waters of the Pacific Ocean around San Nicolas Island, Calif., extending about 3 miles seaward from the shoreline”.

Divided into three zones:

§ (3) “Dredging, dragging, seining, anchoring and other fishing operations within ALPHA section of the area are prohibited at all times”.



Surface Restricted Areas at San Nicolas Island

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Why not call Federal Military Closure Areas MPAs?

- Federal military closure areas are not State MPAs
 - Designated in Code of Federal Regulations via federal rulemaking action by US Coast Guard or Army Corps of Engineers
- DFG has no authority to regulate military activities
- Creates public perception that military activities are banned
- There have been attempts to regulate military activities or seek court injunctions to prohibit the Navy from training in certain areas
 - Even with explicit exemption language in National Marine Sanctuary and National Marine Monument regulations
- MPAs won't add additional protection
 - Existing offshore federal military closures at SNI and SCI (Safety Zones initiative underway w/USCG)
- National security concern
 - MPA designation could adversely affect critical military training and research activities

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What is the benefit for California?

- Protects the marine resources
- Very large areas that meet the design criteria
- Meets the goals of the MLPA
 - Goal 1 (Protect natural diversity and ecosystem functions)
 - Goal 2 (Sustain and restore marine life populations)
 - Goal 4 (Protect representative and unique habitats)
- Consistent with #5 of MLPA Design Considerations
- Gives other stakeholders more flexibility in designing the rest of the MPA network
- Codified under federal law (and permanent)
- Effective enforcement

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