



www.n4wda.org

Nevada Four Wheel Drive Association

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Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest, Code EV21.SG
1220 Pacific Highway
Building 1, 5th Floor
San Diego, CA 92132

February 11, 2019

Dear Sirs,

The Nevada Four Wheel Drive Association (N4WDA) is a statewide non-profit organization consisting of volunteers dedicated to the sport of four wheel drive off highway vehicle recreation and the principle of multiple use management of US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and other public lands. We monitor the activities of these public agencies within Nevada and other areas where our membership recreates to determine whether proposed land use issues are in their best interests.

N4WDA welcomes the opportunity to provide further comment regarding the Fallon Range Training Complex Modernization Draft EIS.

Although we would prefer to support a No Action alternative, our membership, which has many veterans of US military service, realizes that the expansion is necessary to keep the Navy's training up to date as future weapons and strategies are developed to keep our nation strong and that the expansion of the existing ranges is necessary.

We are dismayed at the loss of access to lands that our members recreate upon including the current BLM OHV Recreation area in the Dead Camel Mountains that will be eliminated with the expansion of the B-16 Range as well as the loss of access to countless miles of trails and historic mining sites near Middlegate Station due to the expansion of the B-17 Range. We hope that the Navy will consider sharing the B-16 range by allowing access to this area when training is not being conducted as discussed in our meeting at NAS Fallon with the NAS Modernization Team on December 13, 2016.

In our earlier response letter, we also proposed that the US Navy consider working with the BLM, OHV groups and other individuals to create a National OHV Recreation Area of approximately the same acreage, located elsewhere, as that being withdrawn by this Draft EIS to protect our recreational access.

The Nevada Four Wheel Drive Association, therefore, *reluctantly* lends its support for Alternative 3, which is the least restrictive of the alternatives to the public's access to these highly utilized recreational lands.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lawrence D. Calkins". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'L'.

Lawrence Calkins, President, N4WDA