

# CNMI Response to the Joint Military Training EIS

Dentons  
and  
Environmental Science Associates

July 2015





# Welcome

- Introductions
- Meeting Format / Schedule



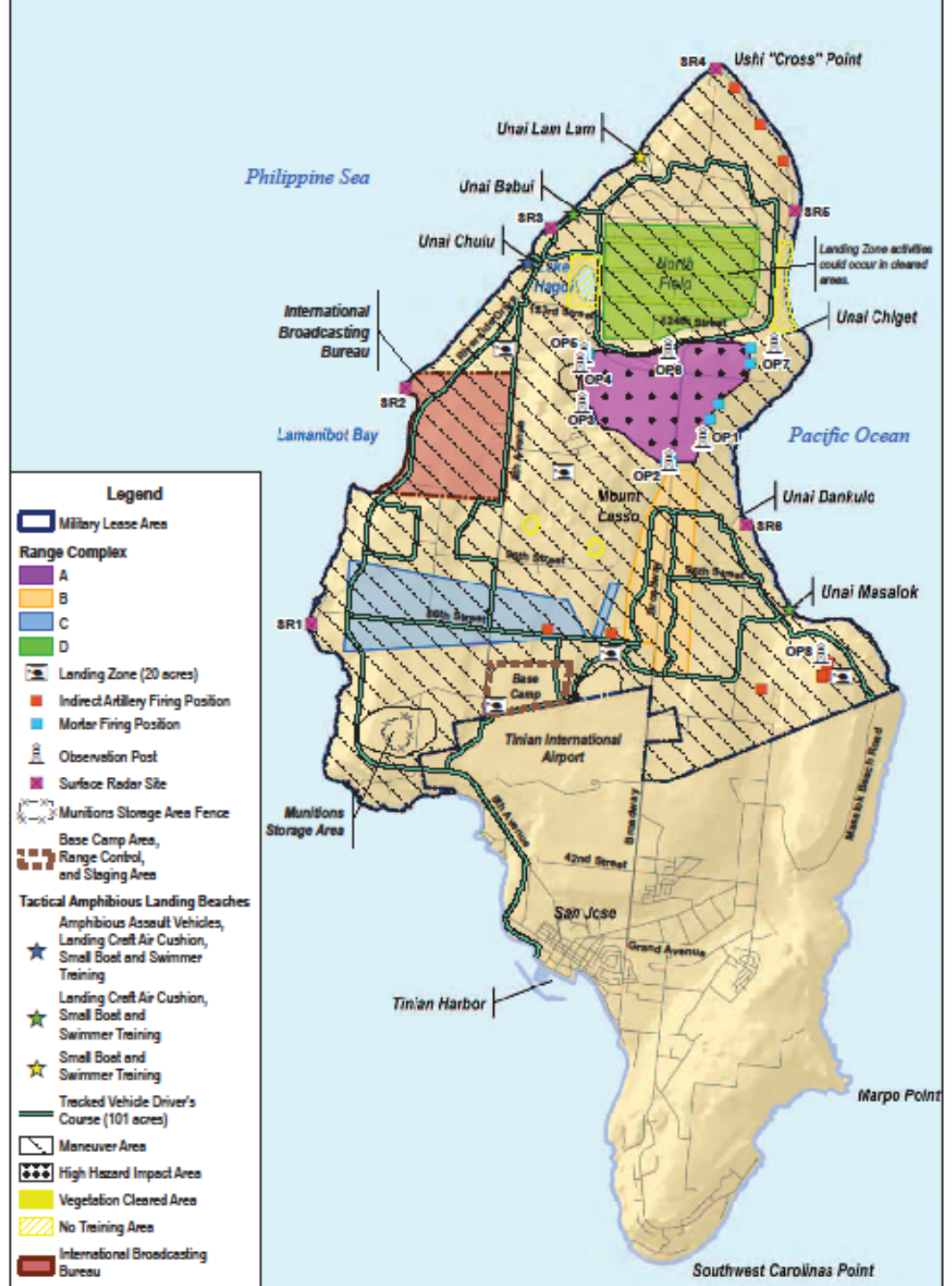
# Why we are here tonight

- US Military Proposal
  - CNMI Joint Military Training
- US Navy Draft EIS/OEIS
- CNMI Public Outreach
  - Get the information out
  - Answer your questions
  - Gather your comments for submission to the Navy



## Tinian

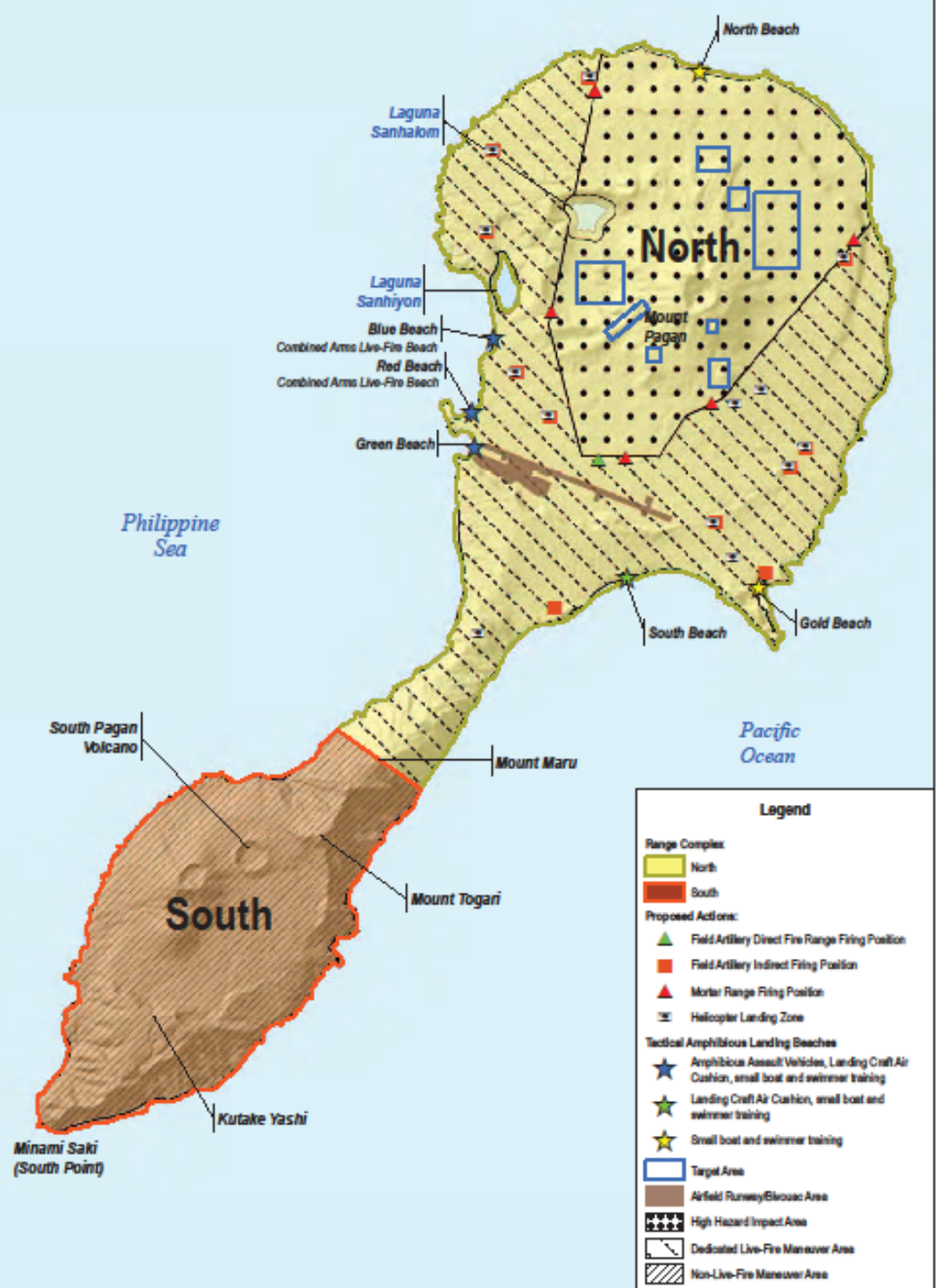
- Extend leased area to Port of Tinian & portions of airport
- Limit access with fences & gates
- 4 amphibious landings
  - concrete ramp at Unai Chulu
  - exercises at Babui, Masalok, and Lam Lam
- Construction of roads & utilities
- Base Camp:
  - barracks, kitchen, offices, medical, fire services, etc.
- Airport use & construction
- Port use and construction
- 4 live- & non-live fire training ranges
  - 20 weeks/year live fire
  - 42 weeks/year non-live fire
- Elimination of the IBB
- Restricted airspace & marine space





## Pagan

- Leased entire island
- Limit access with fences & signs
- 6 amphibious landings
- Construction of camping areas, munitions storage, & training roads
- Airfield improvements
- Live-fire range in the north, non-live fire range in the south
  - 16 weeks/year live fire
  - 35 weeks/year non-live fire
- Restricted airspace & marine space





# Types of impacts

- Direct Impacts
- Indirect Impacts
- Cumulative Impacts
- Long-term and Short-term
- Construction and Operations



# Identified issues

- Marine/Nearshore
  - Loss of 20% to 30% of reef flat habitat
  - Increased vessel traffic will increase the risks of hitting marine mammals & sea turtles
- Vegetation
  - Disturbance or loss of native plants
  - Wildfire hazards
- Wildlife
  - Loss of already limited resources (wetlands, limestone forests, etc.)
  - Threats to rare species
- Surface/Groundwater
  - Groundwater pollution from ammunition
  - Reduction of groundwater supplies



# Munition Quantities Per Year

Type	Amount
Field artillery, mortar, rocket, grenade	114,681
Small arms – up to .50 cal	4,924,643
Air delivered munitions – up to 1,000 pound bombs	176,600





# Identified issues

- Utilities/Infrastructure
  - Increased production of solid waste
  - Demands on the Port and Airport
- Noise
  - Disruption of schools, offices, etc.
  - Long-term effects to wildlife
- Hazardous Materials
  - Significant amount of spent and unexploded rounds
  - Increased chance of fuel spills



# Identified issues

- Transportation
  - Permanent closure of some roads, increased traffic on others
  - Boating restrictions in danger zones during training
- Airspace
  - Limitations on commercial flights
  - Longer or delayed travel times from Saipan to Tinian
- Socioeconomics/ Environmental Justice
  - Fewer opportunities to practice traditional cultural activities
  - Interference with tourism



# Identified issues

- Land Use
  - Consistency with lease?
  - Loss of agriculture and grazing opportunities
  - Eliminates possibility of resettlement on Pagan
- Cultural Resources
  - Damage or loss of important sites that are part of Tinian's history
  - Restricted access or permanent loss of culturally important resources (plants, fish, etc.)
- Recreation/Tourism
  - Restricted or permanent loss of access to fishing sites
  - Restricted or permanent loss of access to beaches



# Commenting on the Draft EIS

## Topics to Address

- Alternatives
- Analysis of Impacts
- Mitigation
- Outreach

## Helpful Tips

- Explain why
- Be specific
- Share your experience
- Provide examples
- Consider all aspects of project
- Submit on time



# How to submit your comments

## COMMENT FORM

CNMI Response to the  
Joint Military Training EIS



### We need your input!

In order to comply with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the US Department of the Navy has prepared a Draft CNMI Joint Military training EIS/OEIS.

Comments will be accepted until 5:00 PM, August 4, 2015.

Submitting comments through the NEPA process is the best way to communicate your ideas and concerns. Your comments will help us determine if the EIS/OEIS has addressed and analyzed all of the potential impacts to the people and lands of the CNMI. This form is provided so you can easily submit your comments on the document.

Please note, all comments submitted on the Draft EIS/OEIS through this website will go to the CNMI Office of the Governor and will become part of the official record. The CNMI administration will be preparing a formal comment letter detailing our review of the EIS/OEIS, which will include an appendix of all comments received through this website and at the public meetings.

(\*) REQUIRED FIELDS

First Name\*: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Island: \_\_\_\_\_

Address\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Category (Circle one):

Public Access & Recreation	Air Quality	Views & Aesthetics
Safety & Hazardous Materials	Plants, Animals & Natural Resources	Public Services & Utilities
Land & Shoreline Use	Social Effects	Light & Glare
Transportation	EIS/OEIS Process	Other
Noise	Historic & Cultural Resources	

Comment:

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Submit comments online

CNMI Response to Joint Military Training EIS/OEIS

**[www.cnmieis.org](http://www.cnmieis.org)**

US Navy Project Website

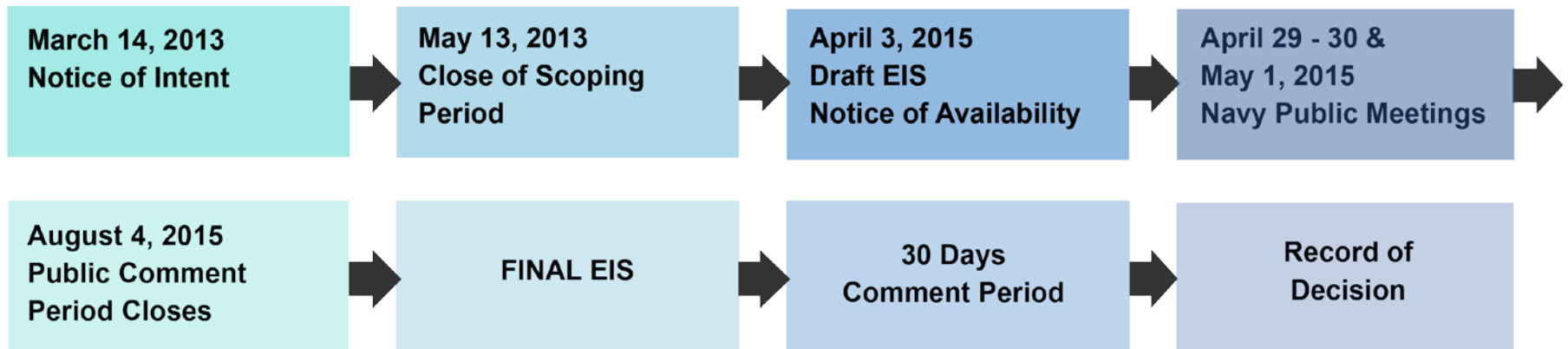
**[www.CNMIJointMilitaryTrainingEIS.com](http://www.CNMIJointMilitaryTrainingEIS.com)**



# NEPA process

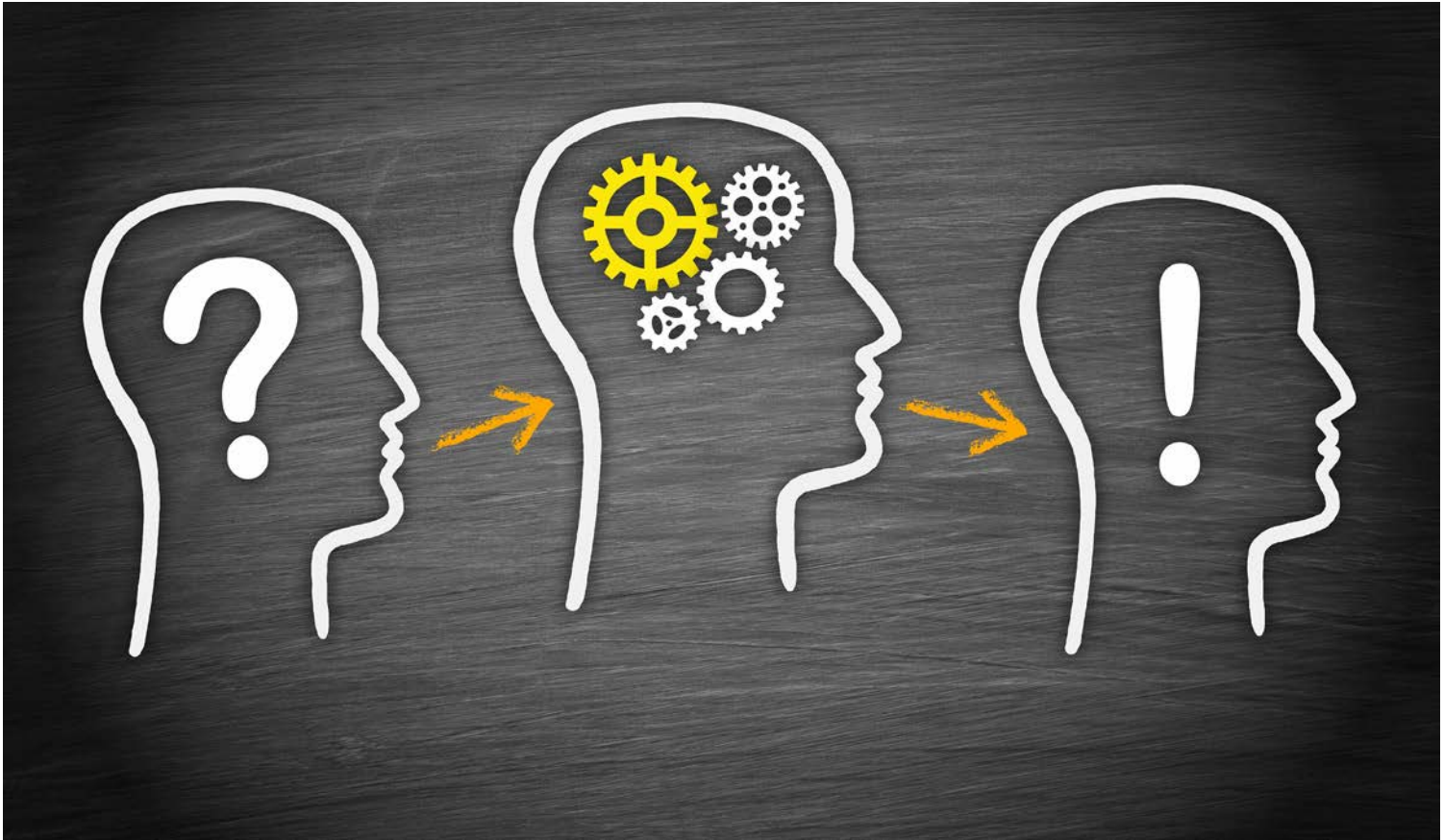
Where we are in the process

## Navy CJMT NEPA Process





# Questions?







**Thank You**

**Please feel free to stay and ask  
more questions**