

## CONSULTATION HISTORY

On January 8, 2001, the United States Navy (Navy) sent the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) a letter requesting informal consultation for the Navy's Explosive Ordinance Detonation (EOD) Training Operation on bull trout and marbled murrelets (murrelet). By letter on April 18, 2002, the Service did not concur with the Navy's "may effect, but is not likely to adversely affect" determination for Coastal-Puget Sound bull trout. This letter also identified possible options to eliminate or reduce negative impacts of the EOD training to listed species. The Navy identified potential mitigation measures in a letter to the Service dated July 5, 2002. Through numerous communications and meetings, the Service requested additional information needed to initiate consultation. On March 2, 2004, the Service received the necessary information required to initiate formal consultation.

A chronological list of significant communications related to the consultation history is provided below:

- January 8, 2001 - The Navy requested informal consultation with the Service for a "may effect, but is not likely to adversely affect" determination for bull trout and murrelets.
- October 29, 2001 - The Navy conducted a field demonstration at the Crescent Harbor training site. Some of the agencies present included the Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), Swinomish Tribe, and the Skagit System Cooperative. During the field demonstration, the Service requested additional information on impacts of underwater explosions to fish.
- December 18, 2001 - The Navy sent an addendum of the Biological Assessment (BA) to the Service providing additional information on effects of EOD training on Dungeness crab (*Cancer magister*), fish, and marine mammals.
- April 18, 2002 - The Service sent a letter to the Navy stating we did not concur with effects determination for bull trout. This letter also identified possible options to eliminate or reduce negative impacts of the EOD training to listed species.
- July 5, 2002 - The Navy identified potential mitigation measures in a letter to the Service.
- Between April 2002 and March 2004 the Navy and the Service developed a monitoring plan for bull trout.
- March 2, 2004 - The Service received the necessary information required to initiate formal consultation.
- March 30, 2004 - The Service sent a letter to the Navy initiating consultation.
- Between March 2004 and September 2007, the Navy and the Service defined an accurate

project description through meetings and numerous correspondences.

- November 1, 2005 - The Navy sent an email to the Service transmitting the effects of the EOD underwater detonations on bull trout critical habitat. The Navy made a “No Effect” determination for bull trout critical habitat.
- October 24, 2007 - The Navy and the Service met to discuss potential impacts to murrelets and measures to minimize impacts.
- Between September 2007 and October 2008, the Service and the Navy developed a pre-detonation murrelet survey protocol and negotiated changes to the project description to reduce impacts.
- October 9, 2008 - The Navy sent an email to the Service withdrawing the detonations in Port Townsend Bay and Bangor from the proposed action, restricting the detonations at Crescent Harbor to 2.5 lbs and providing a monthly schedule of the training exercise to be conducted through December 2009.
- October 16, 2008 - The Navy requested formal consultation on murrelets.