

1                                   **Fair Public Process Needed for**  
2                                   **Pacific Northwest Electronic Warfare Range Plan**

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4   **WHEREAS** the U. S. Navy has submitted an application to the Forest Service for a  
5 permit allowing use of Forest Service roads for its proposed Pacific Northwest  
6 Electronic Warfare Range (EWR);  
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8   **WHEREAS** the proposed EWR covers large areas of Olympic National Park, Olympic  
9 National Forest, and Tribal and private land in western Clallam, Jefferson, and Grays  
10 Harbor Counties;  
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12   **WHEREAS** both the Navy and the Forest Service are required by the National  
13 Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) to prepare environmental evaluations of the  
14 proposed project; and to inform and consult with the public about the proposed project  
15 by providing the affected communities with notice of the project and the opportunity to  
16 make a public record of their concerns;  
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18   **WHEREAS** the Navy has prepared, and the Forest Service is using, for their  
19 environmental evaluations of the proposed project a multitude of incomplete,  
20 confusing, incorrect, and voluminous documents, including the Pacific Northwest  
21 Electronic Warfare Range Environmental Assessment (EA), the Northwest Training  
22 Range Complex EIS, and the Northwest Training and Testing Draft EIS, and  
23 additionally, the Navy has prepared a Supplement to the Northwest Training and  
24 Testing Draft EIS, and is preparing to draft another EIS on the proposed addition of 36  
25 more EA-18G Growler aircraft to Naval Air Station Whidbey Island;  
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27   **WHEREAS** the Navy has unreasonably limited the scope of the EA, and public  
28 comment on the proposed EWR, to essentially a consideration of the impacts of the  
29 proposed EWR on the Forest Service roads;  
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31   **WHEREAS** the public was given insufficient notice and insufficient time (15 days rather  
32 than the required 30 days) to comment on the proposed project – no notice was  
33 published in any newspaper, including the Peninsula Daily News, Sequim Gazette or  
34 Forks Forum, directly serving a community directly affected by the project as required  
35 by NEPA;  
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37   **WHEREAS** the National Forest Service Management Act and Forest Plan require the  
38 Forest Service to give greater priority to its responsibility to the public than to the needs  
39 or demands of any outside agency;  
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41   **WHEREAS** there is a silent zone in Olympic National Park and neither the National  
42 Park Service nor the Forest Service has independently verified statements in the Navy's

43 Environmental Assessment (EA), as required by law; and has not justified its reasons  
44 for a Finding of No Significant Impacts on the environment;

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46 **WHEREAS** citizens residing in the affected counties, and throughout the U.S., have  
47 multiple and grave concerns about Electronic Warfare Range project including, but not  
48 limited to, noise pollution from the Growler and other aircraft using the EWR, training  
49 with Growler aircraft using electronic attack weapons, health effects on wildlife and  
50 humans, economic effects on the local economy, and the environmental impacts; and

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52 **WHEREAS** it appears that the Navy and the Forest Service have not adequately  
53 performed their responsibilities under NEPA, and their responsibilities to inform and  
54 receive official comment from the public on the full range of impacts of the proposed  
55 Electronic Warfare Range;

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57 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democrats call upon our  
58 elected representatives at all levels to use all their authority to:

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- 60 1. Suspend any previous approval of the proposed EWR by the US Navy and the  
61 US Forest Service;
- 62 2. Publish any notice of future public comment periods in newspapers with wide-  
63 circulation in Clallam, Jefferson, Grays Harbor, Island, San Juan, and other  
64 counties adversely affected by the proposed EWR;
- 65 3. Schedule public hearings as required by NEPA throughout the affected counties  
66 so that the public may have the opportunity to refute any information provided  
67 in the NEPA documents;
- 68 4. Ensure that neither the US Navy nor the US Forest Service take any further  
69 action on the proposed EWR until a current and complete Environmental Impact  
70 Statement has been prepared by an independent third party covering the whole  
71 range of possible impacts of the proposed EWR, and of all the aircraft using the  
72 EWR, including impacts to the areas under the flight paths to and from the EWR,  
73 and including impacts from both Electronic Surveillance and Electronic Attack  
74 training.

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76 Submitted by the Jefferson County Democrats to the WSDCC. (Date Submitted  
77 11/21/2014)

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79 Submitted by the 24<sup>th</sup> LD Democrats to the WSDCC. (Date Submitted 1/11/2015)

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81 The Resolutions Committee amended this resolution and recommended that it be  
82 "PASSED" at its April 18, 2015 meeting in Pasco.

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84 The WSDCC "PASSED" this resolution at its April 18, 2015 meeting in Pasco.