



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
Jacksonville District

NEWS RELEASE

Release No.: 0735
For Release: 20 July 2007
P.O. Box 4970 Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019

Contact: Barry Vorse, CCO
Phone: 904-232-2236 FAX: 904-232-2237
Email: nancy.j.sticht@saj02.usace.army.mil

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS SEEKS COMMENTS FROM BOATING PUBLIC ABOUT PROPOSED RESTRICTED AREA REGULATIONS DURING NAVAL TRAINING EXERCISES

PANAMA CITY, Fla. – The Jacksonville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), is now seeking comments on proposed rules for boaters in West Bay, North Bay, St. Andrews Bay and the Gulf of Mexico, during Naval training exercises being performed by the Naval Support Activity Panama City.

Navy Research and training in these waters has existed in harmony with the local boat traffic and development since 1945. The activity's request will formalize these ongoing activities to maximize public safety and preserve current military training and readiness.

The highly-detailed rules were published in the Federal Register on Wednesday, 18 July 2007. The proposed rules were placed on public notice, on the Corps website the same day. The public may access the Federal Register notice at www.regulations.gov; docket number COE-2007-0017. The public notice is published on the Jacksonville District website at:

<http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/regulatory/pnwebshare/florida.htm>, utilizing the same docket number as listed previously.

The public notice includes a map of the specific areas which would be affected by these proposed rules. The proposed rules primarily state that water-borne activities must cease or are limited during training exercises. The public will be notified by the Navy via a notice to mariners in advance of these exercises and the Navy will provide patrols to advise the public of the activity and prevent the public from encroaching in the areas.



For further information on this matter, please call the Public Affairs Office of the Jacksonville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at 904-232-2236.

###