

Changes & Challenges on the Horizon

WELCOME TO THE winter 2015-16 issue of *Currents*. Thank you for taking the time to read this magazine and for staying engaged on the vital issues it covers. As director of OPNAV N45, I am privileged to have the opportunity to work with such consummate professionals in the energy, environmental and compatibility portfolios here in the Pentagon and throughout the Fleets and systems commands. There is an incredible amount of important work going on in these areas that ultimately helps accomplish the mission, and it's largely due to the efforts of you and your colleagues that the Navy has such good stories to share.

Admiral John Richardson took over as the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) in August 2015. In early January he released "A Design for Maintaining Maritime Superiority," a strategy document that describes the geopolitical, technological, and information challenges the Navy faces and outlines his vision for meeting them. Therein he identifies four core attributes—integrity, accountability, initiative and toughness, which will prepare us to operate successfully in the current and future environment.

as stewards of the natural environment when planning our activities, and as stewards of the taxpayer dollar when refining our EIS/EA document development processes to be more efficient. I'm hopeful that each Navy technical expert with a stake in this recognizes his or her accountability and takes the time to offer thoughtful input.



Meanwhile, Navy training and testing—and the environmental planning that supports it—continues. Public review for three final EISs (Naval Weapons Systems Training Facility Boardman, Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake, and Fallon Range Training Complex) is now complete. Scoping for the Phase III Atlantic Fleet Training and Testing and Hawaii-Southern California Training and Testing areas

I'm hopeful that each Navy technical expert with a stake in this recognizes his or her accountability and takes the time to offer thoughtful input.

I believe each of those core attributes is easily applicable and relevant to our specific work, and will offer an example for core attribute #2, accountability. Back in July of 2015, we launched a six-month field trial of tools for standardizing Navy environmental assessments (EA) and environmental impact statements (EIS). Working closely with Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Environment) staff, a steering group of echelon I and II technical experts developed a document preparation guide, a series of templates, and "drop-in" text for explaining our analysis of impacts on air, water, and land resources. We have asked for feedback from the teams who will ultimately use these tools, with the goal of producing these documents at lower cost while reducing the time burden and increasing consistency across the Navy. We need to be accountable

began with the publication of our notices of intent in the Federal Register in November 2015 and ran through mid-January of this year.

Now I'd like to draw your attention to some of the stories we've included in this issue of the magazine.

Our cover story "Navy Collaborates, Monitors to Better Understand Sea Turtle Movements in San Diego Bay" profiles an effort among the Navy, the National Marine Fisheries Service and others to better understand changes in the movement and behavior of the green sea turtle to enable the Navy and this turtle to co-exist effectively in San Diego Bay.

In one of our feature stories, "Navy Closing in on One Gigawatt of Renewable Energy," we provide an overview

of the Renewable Energy Program Office’s role in leading the Navy’s efforts to produce or procure one gigawatt of renewable energy generation capacity—a significant step toward our energy independence.

Two articles in this issue highlight the innovative work being sponsored by Navy’s energy-focused research and development (R&D) programs. In our article “ESTEP Project Studies Data Center Smart Metering Technology,” we educate readers about an effort funded by the Energy Systems Technology and Evaluation Program to evaluate the effectiveness of smart metering technologies that help minimize the energy consumption of some the Navy shore community’s biggest single energy users—data centers. The second article comes from our colleagues at the newly-formed Navy Shore Energy Technology Transition and Integration (NSETTI) program.

Our article, “NSETTI Program’s Energy Innovation Demonstration Projects Already Showing Promise,” describes a number of the program’s efforts including validating a hybrid electric utility vehicle and exploring the use of seawater for island base air conditioning.

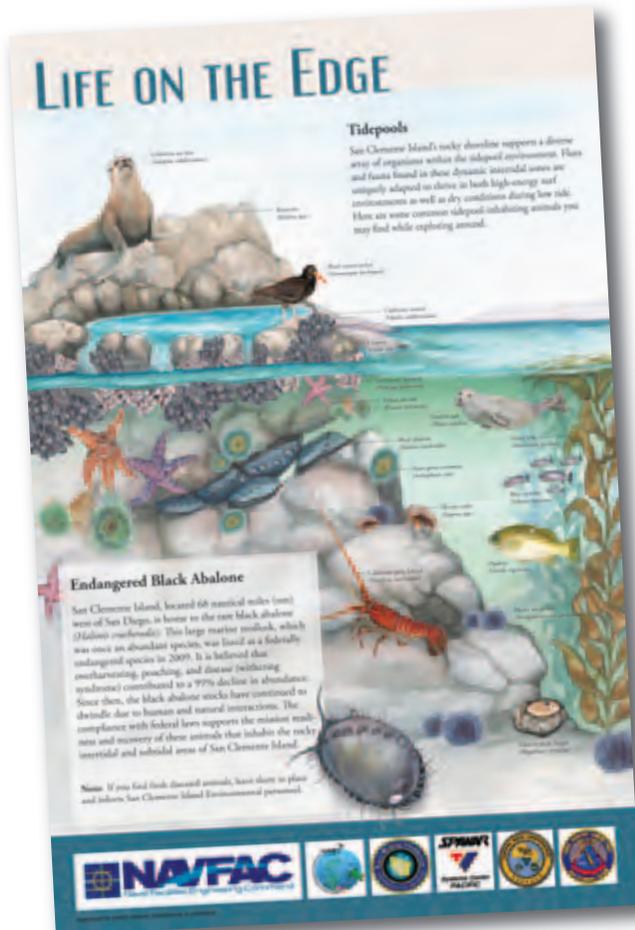
Both of these R&D programs are helping us to rethink our approach to energy use and reshape the Navy’s energy culture.

In this issue, we also pay tribute to the winners of the Secretary of the Navy’s 2015 Energy and Water Management awards and the “losers” in the second annual Energy Biggest Loser competition hosted by Navy Region Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia. Congratulations to all the winners (and losers).



Our most junior teammate may have the best idea; we must be open to capturing (it).

—Admiral John Richardson



Finally, our center spread contains a copy of the “Life on the Edge” poster which you can detach and hang on the wall in your cubicle or office. This poster comes to us from our colleagues at the Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southwest and the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center Pacific, and explains the valuable ecological role of tidepools around San Clemente Island as well as threats posed to the black abalone from overharvesting and disease.

Thanks again for your attention, and for all you do to support the warfighter. If you or your command need help from my office, and/or have ideas for changes you think would benefit the Navy in these areas, don’t hesitate to contact us. As the CNO states in his design document under the “initiative” core value, ‘our most junior teammate may have the best idea; we must be open to capturing (it).’ We value ideas from the entire Navy workforce. For ideas specific to energy, drop us a line at energywarrior@navy.mil.

Rear Admiral Doug Morton
 Director, Chief of Naval Operation Energy and Environmental Readiness Division