



Temporary Maritime Activities Area

Description

The Temporary Maritime Activities Area (TMAA) is composed of 42,146 square nautical miles of surface and subsurface training areas, as well as overlying airspace. It is roughly rectangular and approximately 300 nautical miles long by 150 nautical miles wide. The approximate middle of the TMAA is located 140 nm (259 km) offshore. The TMAA is oriented from northwest to southeast and situated south of Prince William Sound and east of Kodiak Island.

The TMAA extends from the surface to Flight Level (FL) 600 and is scheduled by the Pacific Fleet. The inland Air Force SUA consists of 46,585 nm² (159,782 km²/61,692 mi²) of airspace and the Army training land consists of 2,624 mi² (1,981 nm² or 6,796 km²) of land area. Training activities conducted by the U.S. Navy in the Gulf of Alaska (GOA) are contained within the TMAA and the exercises normally occur during the period between April and October. The majority of all Navy training activities occur in the TMAA.

The overlying airspace includes the majority of Warning Area 612 (W-612), which consists of about 2,256 nm² of airspace. W-612 extends from the surface to FL290. The scheduling agency for this airspace is the 3rd Wing. When not included as part of the TMAA, W-612 is used by the U.S. Air Force to conduct training in Anti-Air Warfare and by the U.S. Coast Guard to fulfill some of its training requirements.

The specific geographical area of the TMAA supports operational and logistical (time, speed, and distance) challenges associated with real world scenarios that support joint operations within U.S. Pacific Command's unique area of responsibility. For example, carrier strike group and land-based joint operations, both overland and overwater, require air route access to land ranges, proximity to bases where a landing could be made in an emergency, and supportable fuel costs, which includes air-to-air refueling where appropriate. The TMAA provides these requirements.

Capabilities at this venue

- Air Defense/Ballistic missile defense
- Air-to-surface at-sea bombing exercise
- Cold water search and rescue/Personnel recovery
- Defense Support to Civil Authorities (humanitarian assistance/disaster relief)
- Electronic Attack and Counter Targeting
- Live fire surface-to-surface missile/gunnery; surface-to-air missile/gunnery; air-to-surface missile/gunnery
- Large-scale joint force exercises
- MSO/MIO (counter piracy)
- Sinking Exercises
- Special Warfare Operations
- Tomahawk Land Attack Missile (TLAM)/Sea-launched Land Attack Missile Exercise (SLAMEX)
- Undersea Warfare and Anti-Submarine Warfare including active, LFA and EER sonar
- Visit, board, search and seizure

Equipment/Supplies Available

- Portable Undersea Training Range
- RIPTIDE emulation system



Portable Undersea Training Range (PUTR)



The TMAA has a unique combination of attributes that make it a strategically important training venue for the U.S. Navy. These attributes include:

Location. The large contingent of U.S. Air Force aircraft based within a few hundred miles of the TMAA creates the possibility of rare Joint training opportunities with Navy forces. The TMAA provides a maritime training venue that is located within flight range of Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Eielson Air Force Base, Fort Richardson, Fort Wainwright, Fort Greely, and their associated air and land training ranges. Furthermore, numerous shipping lanes in the GOA and the abundance of commercial vessels on those shipping lanes provide critical deconfliction training during homeland defense scenarios.

Oceanographic conditions. The complex bathymetric and oceanographic conditions, including a continental shelf, sub-marine canyons, numerous seamounts, and fresh water infusions from multiple sources, create a challenging environment in which to search for and detect submarines in Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) training activities. In the summer, the TMAA provides a safe cold-water training environment.

Area of Training Space. The JPARG is one of the largest air, surface, subsurface, and land training areas in the Northern Pacific. This vast training area provides ample space to support the necessary forces and allow for the full range of activities required of a robust joint training scenario.

Enhanced Training. The TMAA supports training in the Primary Mission Areas, including ASW, Anti-Air Warfare, Anti-Surface Warfare, Naval Special Warfare, Strike Warfare, and Electronic Combat. Conduct of training may include that necessary for newer systems, instrumentation, and platforms, including the EA-18G Growler aircraft, Guided Missile Submarines (SSGN), P-8 Poseidon Multimission Maritime Aircraft (MMA), Guided Missile Destroyer (DDG) 1000 (Zumwalt Class) destroyer, and several types of unmanned aerial systems.

The TMAA accommodates training enhancement instrumentation, including the use of a Portable Undersea Training Range (PUTR). The PUTR is a self-contained, portable, undersea tracking system that employs modern technologies to support coordinated undersea warfare training for Forward Deployed Naval Forces. The system is capable of tracking submarines, surface ships, weapons, targets, and Unmanned Underwater Vehicles. The system then distributes the data to a data processing and display system, either aboard ship, or at a shore site.



The Coast Guard Cutter Bertholf was one of six Navy and Coast Guard ships maneuvering in the Gulf of Alaska during Northern Edge 11. (Coast Guard photo/Petty Officer 3rd Class Charly Hengen)