

## Why does Naval Surface Warfare Center, Dahlgren Division make noise?

The most important part of Naval Surface Warfare Center, Dahlgren Division's (NSWCDD) mission for the US Navy is to place the latest technology in the hands of our sailors once we have ensured that these new weapon systems are safe to use. Our testing and evaluation activities are essential to achieving this goal. Since sailors aboard ship live and sleep near their ammunition, we must ensure their safety through testing the lots of ammunition that go onboard the ship, in addition to testing the weapons themselves. Gun barrels must also be proof-tested before they are installed aboard ship. All these activities make noise a fact of life at Naval Support Facility (NSF) Dahlgren.



Dahlgren's gunline

Other parts of our mission are to protect military personnel and equipment, and to support homeland security. These activities generate noise not only from guns and ammunition, but also – although to a much lesser extent – from boats and aircraft.

A third source of noise at NSF Dahlgren is the treatment of ordnance that has gone through testing without being destroyed. By state and federal regulations, such ordnance is considered unsafe to transport because the testing process may have caused it to become unstable. An important, though small, part of our work is to treat this unexploded, non-transportable ordnance.

## What kinds of noise do we make?



Detonations to test and evaluate ordnance



5-inch/54 gun firing at sea



Firing of Naval Guns



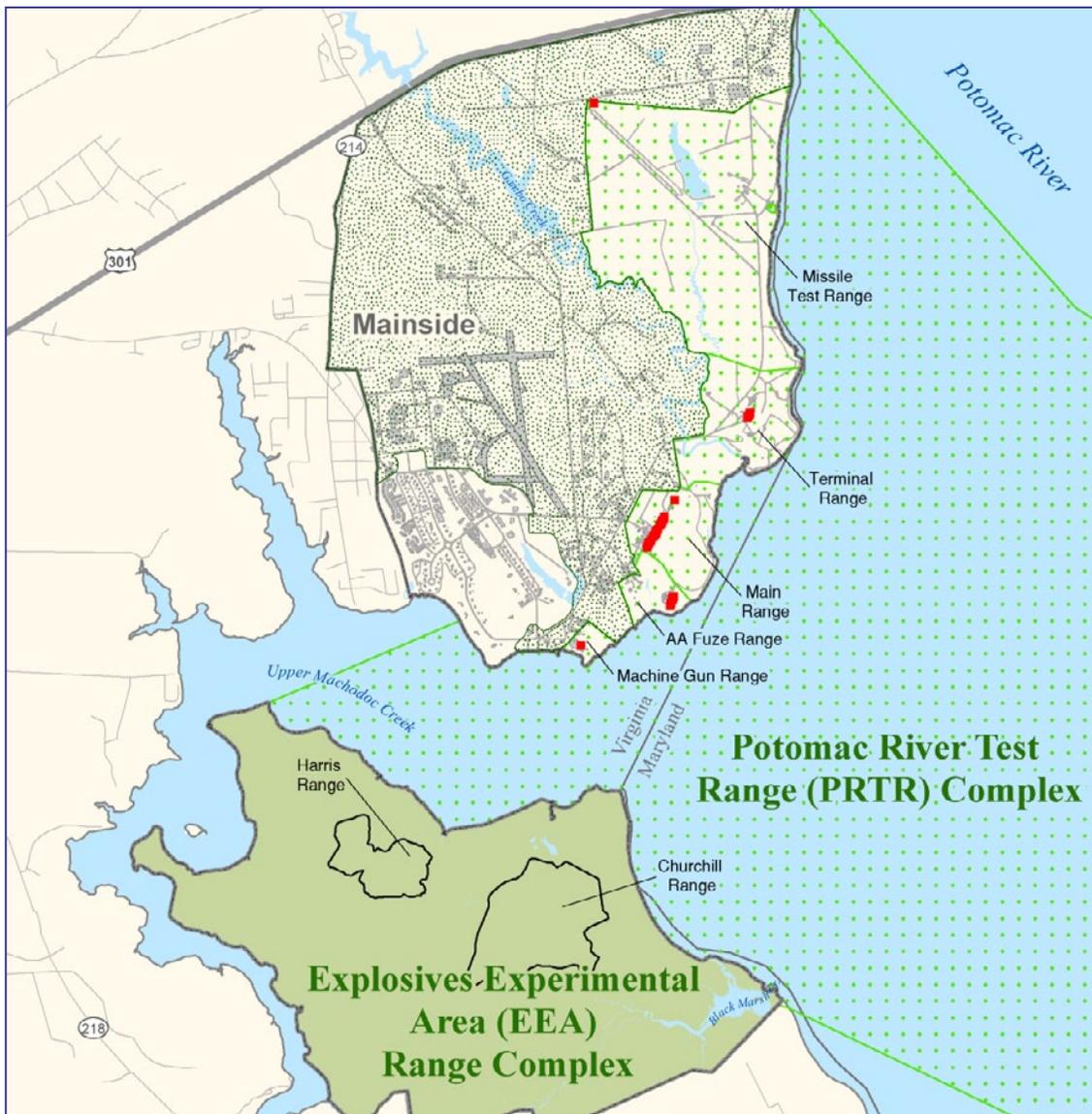
Boat Operations



Aircraft and unmanned aerial vehicle operations

## Where is the noise coming from?

Noise originates from test and evaluation activities that take place on NSWCCD's testing facilities and ranges.



NSWCCD is committed to being a good neighbor. We strive to minimize the noise we make to the greatest extent possible consistent with our national defense mission. Please read our *Managing Noise* fact sheet for more information.