

History of when Northern Edge exercises were conducted (Compiled by EPC, Feb 2019)

The Northern Edge EIS and the 2017 decision allows the biennial exercises to be conducted within an April-October window in odd years. The Navy has a clear preference for spring, as demonstrated in the table below of Northern edge exercises since 1994. The February-March event was in 1999, and the August one was in 2005. From 2007 onward the table includes 4 events in May and 2 in June. Because all of the alternatives in the EIS considered only the April-through-October window, the Navy is precluded by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) from considering other months unless it produces a supplemental EIS (including a public comment process) to evaluate impacts in those months.

Timing of Northern Edge war games in the GOA since 1993						
Feb-March	March	April-May	May	June [*]	Aug.	(Unknown)
1	1	3	3	5	1	5

[*] Includes 2013, planned for June 13-28 but cancelled due to budget sequestration.

- 1993 ?? (The first "Northern Edge")
- 1994 March 11 to March 18
- 1995 April 17 to May 26 (3 phases). 1 with U. S. Third Fleet cruiser/destroyer group.
- 1996 ??
- 1997 ?? (Naval harbor defense portion was held at Seward)
- 1998 XX (Conducted, but not in Gulf)
- 1999 February 22 to March 16
- 2000 ?? The highlight of the naval exercise, for the second year in a row, was the use of trained dolphins to help detect underwater intruders. This even-year exercise may have been Arctic Edge instead of Northern Edge.
- 2001 ?? The highlight of the naval exercise, for the second year in a row, was the use of trained dolphins to help detect underwater intruders.
- 2002 April 22 to May 3. The USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN operated from the Gulf of Alaska, and its aircraft, including the new F-18 Super Hornet, flew into the interior of the state ... ground defense maneuvers ... centered on protecting the visiting USS DUBUQUE and the Valdez Marine Terminal.
- 2004 June 7 to June 16
- 2005 August 15–19
- 2006 June 5–16. Two US Navy destroyers participated in the exercise. The USS Chafee based its operations out of Seward and the USS O'Kane participated out of Homer.
- 2007 April 30 - May 17
- 2008 May 5–16
- 2009 May 15–26
- 2011 June 13-24
- 2013 Cancelled (cancelled due to budget sequestration; was planned for June 13-28)
- 2015 June 11-26
- 2017 May 1-12

Sources: For up to 2013:

FOIA'd email ("NE history"), 21 Nov 2016. (Sender & recipient redacted).
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Exercise_Northern_Edge#Northern_Edge_1993%E2%80%932004
<http://alaska.coastguard.dodlive.mil/2011/06/coast-guard-cutter-bertholf-participates-in-operation-northern-edge-base-kodiak-provides-support/>
<https://www.globalsecurity.org/military/ops/northern-edge.htm>
<http://www.firebirds.org/menu23/nedghistory.htm>