

CHAPTER 11

NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

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CHAPTER 11

NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

11100. PURPOSE. This chapter establishes Marine Corps policy and responsibilities for compliance with procedural and statutory requirements for managing natural resources at Marine Corps installations. This chapter summarizes the Natural Resources Management Program, which consists of land management, fish and wildlife management, forest management, and resource-based outdoor recreation management.

11101. APPLICABILITY. See paragraph 1101.

11102. BACKGROUND. The making of Marines requires extensive training. Marines train as they fight, and that training requires access to land. Training can be destructive to land and natural resources. Unless properly managed, Marine Corps lands can become damaged to the point where realistic training can no longer occur. In addition, the American people have placed intrinsic values on certain natural resources. These values are manifested in laws requiring the Marine Corps to protect and conserve natural resources. Failure to comply with natural resources laws can lead to judicial, legislative, and executive decisions denying the Marine Corps access to land for training. Accordingly, installation and unit commanders must work to guarantee continued access to our land, air, and water resources for realistic military training and testing by ensuring that the natural resources entrusted to the Marine Corps remain healthy and available for future generations.

11103. FEDERAL STATUTES AND E.O.s (Of the following list of statutes and E.O.s, only items 9, 19, 25, 26 and 29 apply to overseas installations.)

1. Bald Eagle Protection Act of 1940, as Amended (16 U.S.C. 688 et seq.). The act prohibits taking, possessing, and transporting bald eagles and golden eagles and importing and exporting their parts, nests, or eggs. The definition of "take" includes pursue, shoot, shoot at, poison, wound, capture, trap, collect, molest, or disturb. The act also provides for penalties of up to \$5,000 for possessing eagles or eagle parts taken from birds after June 1940. Regulations implementing the act are found at 50 CFR Part 22.

2. Clean Water Act (CWA) of 1977, as Amended (Public Law 95-217, 33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.). The CWA, in part, requires Federal agency consistency with state nonpoint source pollution management plans. The CWA and its implementing regulations also require permits for controlling wastewater discharges and placing fill materials into waters of the United States, including wetlands. These permits are required before initiating proposed actions.

3. Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.). The CZMA requires that, to the maximum extent practicable, Federal actions affecting any land/water use or coastal zone natural resource be implemented

consistent with the enforceable policies of an approved state coastal management program. The CZMA also authorizes states to administer approved coastal nonpoint source pollution programs. Advance concurrence from the state Coastal Commission is required before taking an action affecting the use of land, water, or natural resources of the coastal zone. Excluded from the coastal zone are lands solely subject to or held in trust by the Federal Government, its officers, or its agents.

4. Conservation Programs on Military Reservations (Sikes Act) of 1960, as Amended (16 U.S.C. 670(a) et seq.). The Sikes Act requires each military installation to manage natural resources for multipurpose uses and public access appropriate for those uses, as well as ensuring no net loss to training, testing or other defined missions of the installation. Management of these resources is accomplished through development and implementation of an INRMP. Each INRMP must be prepared in consultation with the USFWS and the cognizant state fish and wildlife agency. The public must be afforded an opportunity to review and comment on INRMPs prior to their finalization. The Sikes Act also requires, to the extent practicable using available resources, sufficient numbers of professionally-trained natural resource management personnel and natural resources law enforcement personnel, be available and assigned responsibility to perform tasks necessary to carry out Title I of the Sikes Act, including preparing and implementing INRMPs.

5. Emergency Wetlands Resources Act of 1986 (16 U.S.C. 3901-3932). The act promotes wetlands conservation for the public benefit and helps fulfill various migratory bird treaty obligations.

6. Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). Implemented by 50 CFR 402 and 50 CFR 17, the ESA requires Federal agencies to carry out programs to conserve Federally-listed endangered and threatened plants and wildlife. Development and implementation of these programs must be carried out with the consultation and assistance of the Departments of the Interior (DOI) and Commerce. Preparation of a biological assessment may be required to determine whether formal consultation with the FWS/National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Fisheries (NOAA Fisheries) is necessary and/or may serve as a basis for a FWS/NOAA Fisheries biological opinion.

7. Estuarine Areas Act (16 U.S.C. 1221-1226). The act provides for a Federal study and inventory of estuaries and authorizes their management and development through Federal and state agreements.

8. Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7701 et seq.). Consolidates and modernizes all major statutes pertaining to plant protection and quarantine.

9. Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management (E.O.) 13423, 24 January 2007). Sections 2(d) and 3(a) of this E.O. require the use of sustainable environmental practices and energy efficiency, GHG emissions avoidance or reduction, and renewable energy.

10. Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) of 1972, as Amended (16 U.S.C. 1361 et seq.). Implemented by 50 CFR 18, 215, and 228, the MMPA mandates a moratorium on the killing, capturing, harming, and importing of marine

mammals and marine mammal products. The MMPA also prohibits the taking of any marine mammal by any person, vessel, or conveyance subject to the jurisdiction of the United States on the high seas or the taking of any marine mammal by a person, vessel, or conveyance in waters or lands under the jurisdiction of the United States. "Taking" means to harass, hunt, capture, collect, or kill any marine mammal, and the term includes, without limitation, any of the following: collection of dead animals or their parts, restraint or detention of a marine mammal, tagging a marine mammal, the negligent or intentional operation of an aircraft or vessel, or doing of any other negligent or intentional act that results in the disturbing or molesting of a marine mammal.

11. Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act (MPRSA) of 1972, as Amended (33 U.S.C. 1401 et seq. and 16 U.S.C. 1431 et seq.). The MPRSA establishes regulations relating to dumping specific materials into open waters and establishes a program for designating and regulating national marine sanctuaries.

12. Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918, as Amended (16 U.S.C. 703 et seq.). The MBTA protects migratory birds (listed in 50 CFR 10.13) and their nests and eggs and establishes a permitting process for the taking of migratory birds.

13. Military Reservation and Facilities: Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Act of 1958 (Public Law 85-337, 10 U.S.C. 2671). The act requires all hunting, fishing, and trapping on each military installation be in accordance with the state fish and game laws where the installation is located. Appropriate state licenses must be obtained for these activities on the installation, but the act permits an installation commander to exempt active duty military personnel from state licenses to hunt, fish, and trap on a military installation if the state does not permit them to obtain a resident license.

14. Sale of Certain Interests In Lands; Logs (10 U.S.C. 2665). This law establishes requirements for installation sale of forest products.

15. Leases: Non-Excess Property of Military Departments (10 U.S.C. 2667). This law permits installations to lease real or personal government property, including land leased for agricultural purposes.

16. NEPA of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.). The NEPA requires consideration of environmental concerns during project planning and execution. The NEPA and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) implementing regulations (40 CFR Part 1500) require Federal agencies to prepare an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement for Federal actions with the potential to significantly affect the quality of the human environment, including natural and cultural resources.

17. Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act (FWCA) of 1980 (16 U.S.C. 2901 et seq.). The FWCA promotes state programs for conserving nongame fish and wildlife, their habitats, and their use.

18. Plant Quarantine Act (7 U.S.C. 151-167). The act regulates the importation and movement of nursery stock and other plants and plant products

within the United States to control injurious plant and pest transportation.

19. Protection of Wetlands (E.O. 11990, 24 May 1977). This E.O. addresses Federal agency actions required to identify and protect wetlands, minimize the risk of wetlands destruction or modification, and preserve and enhance the natural and beneficial values of wetlands.

20. Floodplain Management (E.O. 11988, 24 May 1977). This E.O., in part, requires each Federal agency to evaluate potential effects of actions that it may take in a floodplain and ensure that its planning programs and budget requests reflect consideration of flood hazards and floodplain management.

21. Outdoor Recreation - Federal/State Program Act (16 U.S.C. 460(L) et seq.). The act encourages consultation with the United States National Park Service regarding outdoor recreation management.

22. Rivers and Harbors Act (33 U.S.C 401). The act, in part, prohibits the construction of any bridge, dam, dike, or causeway over or in navigable waters of the United States without Congressional approval.

23. Soil Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 590a et seq.). To control and prevent soil erosion, the act ensures that programs administered by the Secretary of Agriculture for the conservation of soil are responsive to the long-term needs of the United States.

24. Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (16 U.S.C. 1001-1009). To preserve and improve land and water resources and the quality of the environment, the act authorizes Federal assistance to local organizations for flood prevention and the planning and completion of projects in watershed areas for conservation and land and water use.

25. Exotic Organisms (E.O. 11987, 24 May 1977). This E.O., in part, requires Executive agencies, to the extent permitted by law, to restrict the introduction of exotic species into the natural ecosystems on lands and waters they own, lease, or hold.

26. Invasive Species (E.O. 13112, 3 February 1999). This E.O.'s purpose is to prevent the introduction of invasive species, provide for their control, and minimize the economic, ecological, and human health impacts that invasive species cause.

27. Farmland Protection Policy Act (7 U.S.C. 4201-4209). The act encourages Federal agencies to take steps to ensure their actions do not cause United States farmland to be irreversibly converted to nonagricultural uses.

28. Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds (E.O. 13186, 10 January 2001). This E.O., in part, requires each Federal agency taking actions that have, or are likely to have, a measurable negative effect on migratory bird populations to develop and implement, within two years, a MOU with FWS that shall promote the conservation of migratory bird populations.

29. Use of Off-Road Vehicles on the Public Lands (E.O. 11644, 9 February 1972). This E.O., in part, establishes policies and provides for procedures

for ensuring off-road vehicle use on public lands will be controlled and directed to protect natural resources.

30. Superfund Implementation (E.O. 12580, 23 January 1987), as amended by E.O. 12777 (18 October 1991). This E.O. delegates to various Federal officials the responsibilities vested in the President for implementing CERCLA.

11104. REQUIREMENTS. With the exception of subsections 1a, 1f, 1g(2) and 1i, the guidance in paragraph 11104 does not apply to overseas installations.

1. Natural Resources Management. Each Marine Corps installation shall manage its natural resources to provide for sustained military use of the land.

a. INRMPs. Each installation having custody of property (i.e., land and water) suitable for the conservation and management of natural resources shall prepare, or ensure preparation of, and implement a comprehensive INRMP that includes all elements of natural resources management applicable to the installation. INRMPs must be prepared by professionally-trained personnel and must address compliance with legal mandates protecting specific natural resources. Each installation, as applicable, shall continuously monitor its INRMP implementation and review its INRMP annually. Each installation, as applicable under the Sikes Act, shall also revise and/or reapprove its INRMP at least every five years. For more information, see paragraph 11200.4 of this chapter.

b. Pesticide Use in Natural Resources Management Programs. Pesticide use, storage, application, and disposal, in support of installation natural resources management activities shall comply with reference (a) and applicable occupational safety and health requirements. Each installation shall use the principles of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) to avoid and minimize the use of pesticides when nonchemical alternatives are available and cost effective.

c. Public Access Associated with the Natural Resources Management Program. Marine Corps lands will be available to the public for enjoyment and use of natural resources, except when a specific determination has been made by the installation CG/CO that a military requirement prevents such use for safety or security reasons, or when such use would cause substantial environmental degradation. A nonaccess or limited access determination will be explained in the installation's INRMP.

d. Access by Federal and State Conservation Officials. Federal, state, and local officials will be permitted access to installation land and waters for official purposes after proper safety and security measures are taken.

e. Consistency with Coastal Zone Management Plans. Reference (b) requires each installation to ensure that its operations, activities, projects, and programs affecting the coastal zone in or on coastal lands or waters are consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the Federally-approved Coastal Zone Management Plan of the state. Installation natural

resources management planning shall comply with this requirement.

f. Protection of Coastal Barriers. Before construction, maintenance, military activities, implementation of natural resources management projects, or other Federal expenditures on coastal barrier islands, the Marine Corps will consult with the Secretary of the Interior to determine the impacts on these resources. In areas designated as coastal barriers, the Marine Corps may only expend funds for military activities essential to national security; projects for the study, management, protection, and enhancement of natural resources; scientific research; essential emergency actions; maintenance (but not expansion) of publicly-owned structures; and nonstructural projects for shoreline stabilization.

g. Exotic and Invasive Species

(1) Installations and units shall prevent the introduction of exotic species into any installation's natural ecosystem unless the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of the Interior finds that such introduction will not have an adverse effect on those ecosystems.

(2) Installations and units shall not authorize, fund, or carry out actions likely to cause or promote the introduction or spread of invasive species in the United States or elsewhere. They shall provide for invasive species control and minimize the economic, ecological, and human health impacts that invasive species cause. Installations and units with actions that may affect the status of an invasive species shall, to the extent practicable and permitted by law, identify such actions, and subject to the availability of appropriations, and within budgetary limits, use relevant programs and authorities to: prevent the introduction of invasive species; detect and respond rapidly to and control populations of such species in a cost-effective and environmentally-sound manner; monitor invasive species populations accurately and reliably; provide for restoration of native species and habitat conditions in ecosystems that have been invaded; conduct research on invasive species and develop technologies to prevent introduction, and provide for environmentally-sound control, of invasive species; and promote public education on invasive species and the means to address them.

h. Partnerships and Volunteer Programs. Installations may use appropriate partnerships and volunteers to enhance conservation programs whenever practicable. This work will be performed under the direction of professionally-trained natural resources personnel in accordance with reference (c).

i. Natural Resources Personnel. Personnel with natural resources responsibilities must, as a condition of employment, possess the appropriate knowledge, skills, and professional training/education to perform their duties. Installation commanders will provide natural resources personnel timely and necessary supplemental training to ensure proper and efficient natural resources management. Installation commanders will also maintain adequate natural resources staffing levels to provide and sustain installation natural resources.

2. Land Management

a. Wetlands Protection. The Marine Corps will obtain a CWA Section 404 permit from the USACE before discharging dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, including wetlands. The Marine Corps will comply with the national goal of no net loss of wetlands and will avoid loss of size, function, and value of wetlands. In addition, the Marine Corps will preserve and enhance the natural and beneficial values of wetlands while conducting its activities.

Installations, when engaged in an authorized activity that may or will result in the destruction of, or an adverse impact to, a wetland, may make payments to a wetland mitigation banking program or "In-Lieu-Fee" mitigation sponsor approved in accordance with references (d) or (e), and any implementing administrative guidance or regulation.

b. Nonpoint Source Pollution. The Marine Corps will comply to the extent permitted by law with state CWA nonpoint source pollution control requirements. Further, the Marine Corps will manage its lands and waters in accordance with reference (f), which requires installations to consider their proposed resource management activities within the broader context of the watershed where their activities are being contemplated.

c. Agricultural Outleasing. As part of the integrated management of natural resources, installation commanders shall review the suitability of their lands for agricultural leasing, under authority of reference (g) when such leasing is advantageous to the United States. Installation commanders should also review the suitability of existing leases to ensure they promote the national defense or are in the public interest and do not conflict with existing or planned military land use requirements. In addition, any agricultural leases must be compatible with the goals and objectives of the installation's INRMP.

d. Soil Conservation. The Marine Corps shall manage its lands and waters to control and prevent soil erosion, soil loss, and aquatic sedimentation and to preserve natural resources by conducting surveys and implementing soil conservation measures. Construction projects shall be designed to eliminate post construction soil erosion, and altered or degraded landscapes and associated habitats shall be restored and rehabilitated whenever practicable.

e. Farmland Protection. The Marine Corps shall identify prime and unique farmland and take into account the adverse effects of Marine Corps actions on farmland preservation. In reviewing its actions, the Marine Corps shall consider appropriate alternative actions to reduce such adverse effects and will ensure that such actions, to the extent practicable, are compatible with state and local government and private farmland protection programs and policies.

f. Control of Noxious Weeds. Installations shall implement control measures for Federally- and state-listed noxious weeds. Base Exterior Architecture Plans will include a list of prohibited noxious weeds for landscaping. Installations must also cooperate with state, county, and local

governments and easement holder management plans for controlling noxious plants provided that similar programs are being implemented generally on state or private lands in the same area.

g. Floodplain Management. As it implements land management, construction, and land use actions, the Marine Corps shall avoid direct and indirect floodplain development and shall restore and preserve the natural and beneficial values served by floodplains. Installations and units must evaluate the potential effects of proposed actions in floodplains according to the NEPA procedures described in chapter 12.

h. Wildfire Suppression and Prescribed Burning. Fire is an important component of fire-adapted ecosystems. These ecosystems may require some level of prescribed burning to mimic the temporal frequency and intensity of the natural fire regime. Burning outside the natural fire regime may impact or convert vegetation plant communities to a non-native type. Prescribed burning is an important tool to reduce fuel loading and maintain fire-dependent ecosystems. Accordingly, Marine Corps installations shall include fire management in their INRMP. Wildland fire response and prescribed burning shall be conducted in accordance with reference (h).

3. Fish and Wildlife Management

a. Endangered Species

(1) Each installation shall survey and take other appropriate actions to document the presence of candidate species and endangered or threatened species on the installation, and identify their currently used and periodically-or indirectly-used habitats. Each installation shall assist FWS in determining whether any such habitats may be included or excluded from critical habitat designation. Each installation shall also survey and take other appropriate actions to document the presence of state or territory rare and endangered species.

(2) The Marine Corps will consult with FWS or NOAA Fisheries (as appropriate) on any Marine Corps action that may affect any endangered or threatened species or critical habitat to ensure that such action is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat. Such consultations may be either formal or informal. When necessary, the Marine Corps will prepare a Biological Assessment of the effects of a proposed action on a listed species and/or its critical habitat to assist FWS or NOAA Fisheries in issuing a Biological Opinion on whether the action will jeopardize the continued existence of the species and/or adversely modify its critical habitat. In addition, the Marine Corps will further programs for the conservation of endangered and threatened species. Each installation supporting endangered or threatened species must address their management in its INRMP detailing protective measures that assure the continued health and viability of these species on the installation. Each installation will also assist FWS and NOAA Fisheries in preparing recovery plans for endangered or threatened species on the installation.

(3) Each installation shall designate an installation representative

to liaise with local governmental agencies and organizations interested in endangered and threatened species protection. The initial contacts shall include the local FWS field office, the local field office of NOAA Fisheries, and the state fish and wildlife agency.

b. Species at Risk. To the maximum extent practicable and where it does not conflict with the installation mission, each installation should survey and take other appropriate measures to identify, monitor and manage other species at risk (i.e. state listed species, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List threatened or imperiled species).

c. Marine Mammals. The Marine Corps shall not take (e.g., harass, hunt, capture, or kill) marine mammals on the high seas or in waters or on land under the jurisdiction of the United States. The Marine Corps will evaluate each operation that may affect marine mammals and will avoid impacts to them. For actions with the potential for unintentional harm to marine mammals, application to NOAA Fisheries will be made for a Letter of Authorization or other permit to comply with MMPA requirements. In addition, many marine mammals are also endangered species, and proposed actions that may affect any Federally-listed threatened or endangered species require consultation under Section 7 of reference (i).

d. Migratory Birds. The Marine Corps shall consult with FWS during INRMP preparation to ensure that actions not directly associated with military readiness activities (e.g., training) are conducted in a manner that minimizes the taking of birds protected by reference (j) and listed in reference (k). While incidental take of migratory birds is authorized during the conduct of military readiness activities, the Marine Corps will discuss with FWS the impacts of such activities to migratory bird populations. Installations shall consult with local or regional FWS offices on proposed actions intended to take (e.g., banding or marking, scientific collecting) migratory birds, their young, or eggs. The lawful pursuit of migratory game birds is permissible in compliance with Federal, state, and local hunting regulations.

e. Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping Licenses. Installations allowing hunting, fishing, and trapping shall require all civilian hunters, fishers, and trappers to possess applicable state licenses for hunting, fishing, or trapping on the installation. Military personnel engaged in these activities must possess such licenses if the host state permits the issuance of a resident license to members of the military without regard to residency requirements. At installations within states that do not authorize licenses under the conditions noted herein, military personnel may, at the discretion of the installation CG/CO, hunt, fish, or trap with an installation permit in lieu of a state license.

f. Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping Access Fees. Each installation permitting hunting, fishing, or trapping may collect nominal fees for these recreational opportunities. Each installation should develop the permit fee schedule, in part, after considering cost associated with INRMP fish and wildlife enhancement operations.

g. Fish and Wildlife Management. Installations with INRMPs shall ensure

that professional services implement and enforce them. When procuring INRMP implementation and enforcement services, priority shall be given to Federal and state agencies having responsibility for the conservation or management of fish or wildlife.

4. Forest Management

a. Management Requirements. As part of the integrated management of natural resources, installation commanders shall review the suitability of their lands for merchantable forest products. Installations containing forests or lands with the potential to grow and produce merchantable forest products shall ensure the optimum sustainable yield of forest products and the improvement of forest resources consistent with the military mission and local ecosystem condition. When appropriate, installation INRMPs will include current forest inventories, conditions, trends, and potential uses; silvicultural goals; maintenance of forested areas and access roads; forest and stand improvement methods; harvesting and reforestation methods and schedules; and protection and enhancement of other natural resources.

b. Forest Product Sales. Per references (l) and (m), Marine Corps contracts for the sale of timber and other forest products shall include requirements for orderly harvesting, operational and safety procedures, and payment. Forest products will not be donated; abandoned; carelessly destroyed; used to offset costs of contracts; or traded for products, supplies, or services. Proceeds collected from the sale of installation forest products shall be forwarded to the servicing Marine Corps accounting and finance officer. Each installation selling forest products shall maintain records of sales proceeds by fiscal year for use in identifying the host state's share of forest product sale proceeds (subsection (e)(1) of reference l)).

c. Accounting and Use of Forestry Proceeds. Installations incurring costs for the production of forest products shall be reimbursed from proceeds from forest product sales (subsection (d) of reference (l)). Reimbursable forest product costs, however, must be directly related to the economic production of forest products (i.e., directly related to forest enhancement, protection, conservation, and management). Insofar as they meet this test, forest product costs may also include funding forest management cooperative agreements and forest research agreements. Reimbursable production costs exclude expenses for the production of forests that are incapable of economic production of forest products.

d. Forest Pest Suppression. Installations with forest resources shall fully cooperate in the planning, coordination, and execution of field operations to prevent and suppress forest damage and insect and disease outbreaks. This cooperation, when determined to be necessary by either the Regional United States Forest Supervisor or the cooperating state forestry department or commission, shall be consistent with the terms of reference (n).

5. Outdoor Recreation

a. Recreation Opportunities. Installations shall provide the public

access to natural resources, provided such access is consistent with natural resources and military readiness preservation.

b. Off-Road Vehicles. Recreational off-road vehicle use on installations shall be permitted only on trails and other areas designated by installation commanders. Installations shall monitor unimproved roads to detect off-road vehicle impacts and, thereby, protect sensitive natural, cultural, and geophysical resources.

6. Environmental Restoration

a. Natural Resources Trustees. The CERCLA "natural resources" definition includes "land, fish, wildlife, biota, air, water, groundwater, drinking water supplies, and other such resources...." Reference (o) designates the President as the trustee for Federally-protected or managed natural resources. Reference (p) designates the President's natural resources trustee responsibilities on DOD lands to the DOD. Accordingly, the Marine Corps serves as the natural resources trustee for its natural resources.

b. Natural Resources Trustee Responsibilities. After receiving notice of, or discovering, a natural resources injury, loss, or threat, a natural resources trustee shall take actions to recover for such damages. These actions include conducting a preliminary survey of areas affected by a discharge or release to determine if natural resources are or may be affected; cooperating with the OSC/Regional Project Manager in coordinating assessments, investigations, and planning; and carrying out a plan for restoration, rehabilitation, replacement, or acquisition of equivalent natural resources. The Marine Corps may take these actions when acting as a natural resources trustee.

c. Ecological Risk Assessments. The Marine Corps performs ecological risk assessments during the RI/FS phase of each CERCLA remedial action. Reviewing these assessments requires natural resource expertise, and installation natural resources personnel should, to the greatest extent practicable, review ecological risk assessments for their installation.

11105. DEFINITIONS. The majority of definitions provided below can be applied to all Marine Corps installations; however, for overseas installations, definitions provided in the appropriate FGS will supersede definitions provided here should they differ.

1. Adaptive Management. Adaptive management is an approach to treat all management decisions as experiments to be tested. Rather than immediately prescribe a management decision, the manager working in an adaptive fashion tests possible solutions to problems using a scientific method, complete with variable controls and measures of success. This approach welcomes new ideas, new data, and revision of plans when better approaches are possible.

2. Agricultural Outleasing. The use of DOD lands under a lease to an agency, organization, or person for the purpose of growing crops or grazing domesticated animals.

3. Annual Operational Plan. An INRMP management section addendum prepared annually to describe current fiscal year land management projects and their cost.
4. Biodiversity. The diversity of life and its processes: living organisms, the genetic differences among them, and the communities and ecosystems in which they occur.
5. Biological Assessment. As defined by section 402.02 of reference (q). Within reference (q) are the minimum requirements for inclusion in a biological assessment for ESA regulatory consultation.
6. Candidate Species. Any species being considered under reference (i) by the Secretary of the Interior or Commerce for listing as an endangered or threatened species, but not yet the subject of a proposed rule.
7. Coastal Zone. As defined by section 1453(l) of reference (b).
8. Conservation. (When generally used in this chapter apart from the discussion per reference (i)), the planned management, use, and protection of natural resources to provide their sustained use and continued benefit to present and future generations.
9. Conservation Law Enforcement Officer. A person, having satisfied the minimum conservation officer training requirements and other position prerequisites of reference (r), serving in an installation position with primary responsibility for enforcing conservation and natural and cultural resources protection laws.
10. Critical Habitat. As defined in section 1532 (5)(A) of reference (i) and section 402.02 of reference (q).
11. Damages. As defined in section 11.14(l) of reference (s).
12. Ecological Risk Assessment. An investigation into the actual or potential impacts of contaminants from a HW site on plants and animals other than humans or domesticated species.
13. Ecosystem. A dynamic, natural complex of living organisms interacting with each other and with their associated nonliving environment.
14. Ecosystem Management. A goal-driven approach to managing natural and cultural resources that supports present and future mission requirements; preserves ecosystem integrity; is at a scale compatible with natural processes; is cognizant of natural processes' time scales; recognizes social and economic viability within functioning ecosystems; is adaptable to complex, changing requirements; and is realized through effective partnerships among private, local, state, tribal, and Federal interests. Ecosystem management is a process that considers the environment as a complex system functioning as a whole, not as a collection of parts, and recognizes that people and their social and economic needs are a part of the whole.

15. Endangered or Threatened Species. As respectively defined in sections 1532(6) and (20) of reference (i).

16. Exotic Species. As defined in reference (t), all species of plants and animals not naturally occurring, either presently or historically, in any ecosystem of the United States.

17. Fish and Wildlife Management. A coordinated program of actions for conserving, enhancing, and regulating indigenous wildlife and its habitats, including conserving protected species and non-game species, managing and harvesting game species, reducing bird aircraft strike hazards, and controlling animal damage.

18. Forest Management. A coordinated program of actions for ensuring that the health, vigor, and diversity of forest ecosystems are maintained while providing a diverse, quality military training environment and sustaining the production of forest products. Major forest management actions include forest administration, timber management, timber inventory, reforestation, timber stand improvement, timber access road construction and maintenance, IPM, and fire management.

19. Forest Products. All plant materials in wooded areas that have commercial value.

20. Game Species. Fish and wildlife that may be harvested in accordance with applicable Federal, state, and local laws.

21. Grounds. All land areas not occupied by buildings, structures, pavements, and other facilities. Grounds may be classified as improved (those near buildings), semi-improved (those near runways and roads), or unimproved.

22. Habitat. An area where a plant or animal species lives, grows, and reproduces, and the environment that satisfies their life requirements per reference (u).

23. Injury. As defined in section 11.14(v) of reference (s).

24. Invasive species. As defined in reference (v), an alien species whose introduction does, or is likely to cause, economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.

25. INRMP. A planning document using ecosystem management principles directing the management and conservation of installation natural resources.

26. Land Management. Programs and techniques to manage lands, wetlands, and water quality, including soil conservation, erosion control, nonpoint source pollution, surface and subsurface waters, habitat restoration, control of noxious weeds and poisonous plants, agricultural outleasing, grassland/rangeland management, identification and protection of wetlands, watershed protection, floodplains management, landscaping, and grounds maintenance.

27. Natural Resources. As defined in section 11.14(z) of reference (s).
28. Natural Resources Trustee. Federal trustees are those agencies which have statutory responsibility to protect or manage natural resources or stewardship responsibility as a manager of Federally-owned land. State agencies and Native American tribes also may be trustees.
29. Nongame Species. Species not harvested for recreation or subsistence purposes. As defined in reference (u).
30. Nonpoint Source Pollution. Any source of water pollution that does not meet the CWA definition of point source. Nonpoint source pollution is normally associated with diffuse runoff from rainfall or snowmelt.
31. Noxious Weeds. As defined in section 7702 of reference (w).
32. Off-Road Vehicle. As defined in reference (x), any motorized vehicle designed for or capable of cross-country travel on or immediately over land, water, sand, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, or other natural terrain; except that such term excludes (A) any registered motorboat, (B) any fire, military, emergency or law enforcement vehicle when used for emergency purposes, and any combat or combat support vehicle when used for national defense purposes, and (C) any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized by the Marine Corps under a permit, lease, license, or contract.
33. Outdoor Recreation. Program, activity, or opportunity dependent on the natural environment. Examples are picnicking, bird watching, off-road vehicle use, hiking, wildlife and scenic river use, and primitive camping. Developed or constructed facilities such as golf courses, tennis courts, riding stables, lodging facilities, boat launching ramps, and marinas are not included as defined in reference (u).
34. Species At Risk. Includes species on lists maintained by USFWS, NOAA Fisheries, and state agencies as threatened or endangered, IUCN Red List, or are candidates for such lists. SAR also includes species that could be added to any such list due to current status, and whose conservation, if not addressed, would severely impact the military mission.
35. Stewardship. The responsibility to inventory, manage, conserve, protect, and enhance natural resources entrusted to one's care in a way that respects the intrinsic value of those resources, and the needs of present and future generations.
36. Waters of the United States. As defined in references (y) and (z).
37. Watershed. An area where rain, snow, sediment, and dissolved material drains to a river, lake, wetland, or other common point body of water.
38. Wetlands. As defined in references (y) and (z).

CHAPTER 11

NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

SECTION 2: MARINE CORPS POLICY

11200. GENERAL. The guidance in subsections 4a {3-5}, 4b, 4e, 4f, 4g, 4h, 4i, 5, 6, and 9 does not apply to overseas installations. Guidance in subsections 4f and 4g can be applied, as appropriate, as BMPs.

1. Stewardship. Natural resources under Marine Corps stewardship and control shall be managed to support military readiness and be conserved, preserved, protected, rehabilitated, and enhanced. Land use practices and decisions shall be interdisciplinary and maintain military readiness, rely on scientifically sound conservation procedures and techniques, and employ scientific methods.

a. Procedures. Natural resources stewardship is an important and identifiable responsibility of command to maintain use of Marine Corps lands for mission requirements. Each installation shall establish procedures to ensure commanders on the installation are aware of:

(1) The condition of natural resources available to them.

(2) Any installation INRMP objectives and requirements applicable to them.

(3) Any foreseeable or actual conflicts between their proposed actions and any installation INRMP objectives and requirements.

b. Management. Each installation shall possess a natural resources program manager with responsibilities including making the installation commander aware of the condition of installation natural resources, the INRMP's objectives, and the potential or actual conflicts between natural resources management and maintaining military readiness and the capability of installation lands to support the installation's mission. Natural resources management shall encourage installation natural resources staff to participate in natural resources training and seminars.

c. Proposed Actions. The Marine Corps acts responsibly and in the public interest to restore, improve, preserve, and properly use installation natural resources to provide a landscape suitable for military mission accomplishment. Marine Corps plans, actions, and programs shall consider installation natural resources stewardship. Each action sponsor of a proposed new or continuing action affecting installation natural resources shall coordinate the proposal with installation natural resources managers. Each action sponsor shall, to the extent practicable, implement the natural resources manager's recommendations for minimizing adverse impacts to installation natural resources.

d. Outsourcing. Managing (including planning, implementation, and enforcement functions) and conserving Marine Corps natural resources are inherently governmental functions that shall not be outsourced by the Marine

Corps under the DOD Commercial Activities Program or an installation operating services contracts.

e. Non-Installation Natural Resources. The Marine Corps shall apply stewardship to non-installation natural resources, including marine mammals, coral reefs, land, and water potentially affected by Marine Corps military training and testing.

2. Ecosystem Management. The Marine Corps shall incorporate ecosystem management in installation land use planning and land management. Installation ecosystem management shall use adaptive management techniques.

3. Natural Resources Management. Each Marine Corps installation shall:

a. Preserve access to air, land, and seaspaces to meet military readiness requirements;

b. Comply with applicable natural resources protection requirements (e.g., laws, E.O.s, FGS and regulations);

c. Provide public access to installation lands, where practicable, provided such access does not conflict with military readiness and does not harm sensitive installation natural resources; and

d. Participate in regional ecosystem management partnerships provided such participation does not conflict with military readiness or provisions of a SOFA and does not harm installation natural resources.

e. Participate in wetland mitigation banks and threatened and endangered species conservation banks.

4. INRMP Preparation

a. General

(1) Each INRMP shall assist the installation commander to conserve, preserve, protect, rehabilitate, and enhance installation natural resources while maintaining military readiness and the capability of installation lands to support the installation's mission. Installation INRMPs, including revisions, shall be prepared in cooperation with FWS and the appropriate fish and wildlife agency for the state in which the installation is located, or with the appropriate host nation officials for overseas installations.

(2) An installation shall prepare an INRMP when it supports areas used for military readiness purposes that require integrated management of endangered or threatened species and/or critical habitat, other wildlife and habitat, substantial wetland areas, or other significant natural resources.

(3) The entire INRMP - not just those portions of the INRMP that specifically address fish and wildlife management - shall be prepared in cooperation with FWS and the appropriate state fish and wildlife agency. This cooperation as "parties" begins at the INRMP's developmental stage and

extends through its preparation, revision, and completion. Cooperation informs FWS and the state fish and wildlife agency of the installation's mission, invites them to consider solutions to natural resources management challenges, and expedites final INRMP coordination. Though not required per reference (aa), each installation should prepare its INRMP also in coordination with NOAA Fisheries when it supports trust resources under NOAA Fisheries jurisdiction.

(4) The final INRMP shall reflect the parties' agreement concerning conservation, protection, and management of fish and wildlife resources. While agreement is the goal of the entire plan, agreement among the parties is only required for those elements of the plan where the installation is subject to the legal authority (i.e., authority derived from a source other than reference (aa), such as reference (i)) of FWS and state fish and wildlife agency to conserve, protect, and manage fish and wildlife resources.

(5) The final INRMP shall not enlarge or diminish the existing responsibility and authority of FWS or a state fish and wildlife agency concerning installation natural resources management. Although not anticipated, where FWS or a state fish and wildlife agency withholds their agreement with an INRMP based on objections to elements of the INRMP clearly not within the agency's authority, an installation may, notwithstanding the objections, finalize its INRMP and proceed to manage its natural resources in accordance with its terms.

b. Cooperation

(1) At least 30 days before preparing or revising its INRMP, each installation shall provide all internal and external stakeholders written (e.g., letter, email) notice of its intent to begin the action. External stakeholders include FWS, the state fish and wildlife agency, and organizations and individuals holding installation real property interests. When providing this notice to FWS and the state fish and wildlife agency, the installation shall request FWS and the state fish and wildlife agency to cooperate in the INRMP's preparation, revision, and completion. The installation shall also request that FWS and the state fish and wildlife agency identify their desired number of draft and final documents and the preferred form (e.g., electronic file, hard copy) of receiving them.

(2) The FWS office for initial installation contact is the local FWS field office (attn: Sikes Act Coordinator) because a field office must review the draft INRMP and provide preliminary agreement concerning the INRMP's conservation, protection, and management of fish and wildlife resources provisions before it may be reviewed in the FWS regional office and the FWS Regional Director takes final action on it. An installation may contact its FWS regional coordinator for help in contacting a FWS field office.

(3) At least 60 days before providing a draft INRMP for review, each installation shall provide FWS and the state fish and wildlife office written notice of its intent to take the action. When providing FWS and the state fish and wildlife office a draft INRMP for review, each installation shall identify the review period in writing and request written acknowledgement of

the draft's receipt within 15 days after its receipt.

(4) The FWS field office and the state fish and wildlife office should provide written comments to the installation within the requested review period and send copies of their comments to the Sikes Act Coordinator at the FWS regional office and the state fish and wildlife agency director's office.

(5) Each installation shall provide the public a meaningful opportunity to review and comment on the INRMP draft. Installations should afford this opportunity that, absent extraordinary circumstances, shall be a minimum of 30 days of public review and comment during the NEPA analysis of INRMP preparation or revision.

(6) Each installation shall consider all comments received and send the FWS regional office (exception: The Manager of the California/Nevada Operations office will coordinate on INRMPs for installations in California and Nevada) and the state fish and wildlife agency director's office a draft final INRMP for approval with a writing documenting the actions taken on all comments to previous INRMP drafts. Each installation shall request written acknowledgement of the draft final INRMP's and the written response to comments' receipt within 15 days after their receipt. Each installation shall also give the FWS field office a copy of the written response to comments.

(7) When forwarding the draft final INRMP for review and approval, each installation shall request the FWS regional office and the state fish and wildlife agency director's office to act on the draft final INRMP within 60 days after their agencies' receipt, unless the parties agree on a longer period. The FWS Regional Director's and the state fish and wildlife agency director's written concurrence constitutes the parties' agreement concerning the INRMP's conservation, protection, and management of fish and wildlife resources. The installation commander's signature on the final INRMP completes the INRMP approval process. However, the installation commander shall not sign the INRMP until the INRMP's NEPA analysis is complete.

(8) When INRMP development requires ESA Section 7 consultation, or when the installation requests its INRMP serve in lieu of designating critical habitat for an endangered or threatened species, the cooperation timeline discussed above may be modified for FWS, and FWS may comment apart from its INRMP review. When this occurs, the installation shall request, in writing, the FWS regional and field offices notify the installation of the appropriate review timeline within 15 days after their receipt of the draft INRMP.

(9) Unless otherwise agreed, if the FWS regional office and the state fish and wildlife agency director's office fail to act on the draft final INRMP within 60 days after their agencies' receipt, the installation shall request HQMC assistance in facilitating review.

c. Internal Coordination

(1) The installation INRMP shall be prepared or revised with the assistance of an installation multi-disciplinary team, including natural

resources professionals, tenant military organizations, the installation comptroller, the facility planner, and counsel. This multi-disciplinary team shall ensure each INRMP is prepared or revised considering installation planning documents, including master plans, range plans, training plans, ICRMPs, pest management plans, bird-aircraft strike hazard reduction plans, and IR plans.

(2) The installation INRMP shall briefly summarize the interrelationships with installation planning documents. It shall also identify where the documents may be obtained for additional information.

(3) If INRMP preparation or revision exceeds the installation's internal capability, the installation may request the cognizant NAVFAC EFD/EFA or the USACE district to prepare the INRMP. The installation may also contract its INRMP preparation with other Federal or state agencies or private contractors, provided the installation INRMP preparation or revision continues with the assistance of an installation multi-disciplinary team.

d. Process. Installation INRMP preparation or revision shall use adaptive management techniques. An adaptive management approach to INRMP preparation or revision includes the following iterative steps:

- (1) Identify stakeholders.
- (2) Identify military readiness mission and other land use requirements.
- (3) Identify installation management requirements.
- (4) Identify natural resources management objectives.
- (5) Develop and evaluate natural resources management courses of action (with stakeholder participation).
- (6) Select and implement the selected natural resources management course of action.
- (7) Monitor and assess results.
- (8) The installation INRMP should be reviewed annually and updated as necessary in order to keep the plan current and relevant as well as alleviate the need for extensive and costly periodic revisions.

e. Consultation with Native American Tribes and NHOs

(1) Each installation shall consult with Federally Recognized Native American Tribes or NHOs with interests that may be affected by INRMP preparation or revision. These interests vary. For example, the INRMP may affect traditional subsistence and medicinal resources and the character of sacred and religious sites. Indian tribes may have interests in timber thinning, prescribed burning, recreational access to lands, and agricultural practices. A treaty may also affect INRMP development, such as when a tribe or organization has guaranteed access to fish, game, and other natural

resources on or adjacent to the installation.

(2) Procedures for consulting with Federally Recognized Native American Tribes and NHOs are found in chapter 8. During consultation, an Indian tribe may raise any number of matters, such as identifying installation areas and resources important to the tribe, providing advice on conservation needs and priorities, and sharing their specialized knowledge of installation natural resources. Consultation may require the installation INRMP to preserve these groups interests, such as managing culturally important game and plant species (e.g., restricting herbicide use in gathering areas).

f. INRMPs and Critical Habitat Designation

(1) Reference (i) permits Marine Corps lands to be excluded from critical habitat designation when such lands are managed in accordance with an approved INRMP that provides a benefit to the endangered or threatened species. Accordingly, each installation possessing endangered or threatened species, candidate species, or unoccupied habitat where critical habitat may be designated, shall evaluate within the INRMP the benefits of managing the species and/or habitat. This evaluation shall be clearly identifiable in the INRMP and should be identified in the INRMP's Table of Contents.

(2) Each installation evaluating the benefits of managing the species and/or habitat shall use the following FWS criteria to determine whether an INRMP provides a benefit to the endangered or threatened species:

(a) The INRMP provides a conservation benefit to the species. The cumulative benefits of the management activities identified in the INRMP, for the length of the plan, must maintain or provide for an increase in a species' population, or the enhancement or restoration of its habitat within the area covered by the INRMP (i.e., those areas deemed essential to the conservation of the species). A conservation benefit may result from reducing fragmentation of habitat, maintaining or increasing populations, ensuring against catastrophic events, enhancing and restoring habitats, buffering protected areas, or testing and implementing new conservation strategies.

(b) The INRMP provides certainty that it will be implemented. Persons charged with INRMP implementation are capable of accomplishing its objectives and have adequate funding for it. They have the authority to implement the INRMP and have obtained all the necessary authorizations or approvals. An implementation schedule (including completion dates) for the conservation effort is provided in the INRMP.

(c) The INRMP provides certainty that the conservation effort will be effective. The following INRMP components will be evaluated when determining the conservation effort's effectiveness:

1. Biological goals (i.e., broad guiding principles for the program) and objectives (i.e., measurable targets for achieving the goals).

2. Quantifiable, scientifically valid parameters for

demonstrating achievement of objectives, and standards for these parameters by which progress will be measured.

3. Provisions for monitoring and, where appropriate, adaptive management.

4. Provisions for reporting progress on implementation (based on compliance with the implementation schedule) and effectiveness (based on evaluation of quantifiable parameters) of the conservation effort.

5. A duration sufficient to implement the plan and achieve the benefits of its goals and objectives.

g. Annual Reporting

(1) Before 1 January of the current calendar year, each installation shall annually send FWS and the state fish and wildlife agency a written report of INRMP implementation actions taken during the preceding fiscal year. When making this report, each installation shall request comments from FWS and the state fish and wildlife agency about INRMP implementation effectiveness and whether they believe the INRMP is being fully implemented. Each installation with an INRMP is also required to use the DON Natural Resources Metrics Builder as the tool for accomplishing the required INRMP annual review. The Metrics Builder is a web-based tool that includes seven-focus areas. Key focus areas are INRMP implementation, partnership effectiveness, INRMP team adequacy, impact on the mission, status of Federally-listed species and habitat, ecosystem integrity, and fish and wildlife management and public use. The objectives of the key focus areas are as follows:

(a) Assessment of INRMP Implementation. Determine if INRMP projects are properly developed and entered into the system for resourcing, document funding received, projects accomplished, and whether they meet expectations.

(b) Assessment of Listed Species and Critical Habitat. Determine if conservation efforts are effective and if the INRMP provides the conservation benefits necessary to preclude designation of critical habitat.

(c) Assessment of Partnership Effectiveness. Determine if the partnership between the INRMP team is cooperative and resulting in the effective implementation of the INRMP.

(d) Assessment of Fish and Wildlife Management and Public Use. Rate the availability of public recreational opportunities such as fishing and hunting, given the existing security requirements for the installation.

(e) Assessment of Team Adequacy for Natural Resources Management. Determine if the Natural Resources Team is adequately supported and appropriately trained to implement INRMPs.

(f) Assessment of Ecosystem Integrity. Determine the integrity of the various installation habitats through the development of a simple

protocol, using "indicator species" or possibly just the review team's subjective reasoning and consensus.

(g) Assessment of INRMP Impact on the Installation Mission.

Measure the level to which existing natural resources compliance requirements and associated actions support the installation's ability to sustain the current operational mission.

(2) Before 15 December of the current calendar year, each installation shall annually, for a reporting period covering the preceding fiscal year, provide CMC (LF) the following information for subsequent use in reporting progress towards meeting environmental goals:

(a) The installation name and applicable state(s).

(b) The fiscal year the most recent INRMP was completed, reviewed for operation and effect or revised.

(c) Whether and how the most recent INRMP was coordinated with appropriate operations and training (O&T) personnel and tenant military organizations.

(d) Whether projects were added to the most recent INRMP from O&T personnel and tenant military organization comments.

(e) Whether comments about INRMP implementation effectiveness were requested from O&T personnel and tenant military organizations.

(f) Whether comments about INRMP implementation effectiveness were received from O&T personnel and tenant military organizations.

(g) Whether FWS agreed to any of the most recent INRMP's elements concerning conservation, protection, and management of fish and wildlife resources.

(h) Whether projects were added to the most recent INRMP from FWS comments.

(i) Whether comments about INRMP implementation effectiveness were requested from FWS.

(j) Whether comments about INRMP implementation effectiveness were received from FWS.

(k) Whether the state fish and wildlife agency agreed to any of the most recent INRMP's elements concerning conservation, protection, and management of fish and wildlife resources.

(l) Whether projects were added to the most recent INRMP from state fish and wildlife agency comments.

(m) Whether comments about INRMP implementation effectiveness were requested from the state fish and wildlife agency.

(n) Whether comments about INRMP implementation effectiveness

were received from the state fish and wildlife agency.

(o) Whether the most recent INRMP contains a list of projects necessary to meet INRMP goals, objectives, and timeframes for implementing projects to conserve, preserve, protect, rehabilitate, and enhance installation natural resources.

(p) The following INRMP implementation FY funding matters:

1. Funding required for Class 0 and 1 projects.
2. Amounts funded for Class 0 and 1 projects.
3. Funding required for Class 0 and 1 projects.
4. Amounts funded for Class 2 and 3 projects.
5. Funding requested for Class 2 and 3 projects.
6. A list of unfunded Class 0 and 1 projects greater than \$50K.
7. An explanation of why each Class 0 and 1 project greater than \$50K is unfunded.

(q) Whether the installation received public comment on the draft of the most recent INRMP.

(r) Whether projects were added to the most recent INRMP from public comments.

h. Compliance with Other Environmental Requirements. INRMP development may affect natural resources other than endangered and threatened species (e.g., wetlands, cultural resources, surface water, and air) and may require other Federal, state, or local environmental compliance regulatory involvement. Each installation shall, as necessary, consult with environmental compliance regulators early in the INRMP preparation or revision process (e.g., submit the INRMP to the State Historic Preservation Officer during Section 106 consultation in compliance with reference (ab)). Environmental compliance consultation requirements (e.g., permitting or other approval) shall, to the extent practicable, be complete before INRMP completion. For overseas installations, the INRMP will reference appropriate compliance actions for cultural resources, surface water, air quality, etc. noted in the FGS.

i. Public Availability. The final installation INRMP is generally subject to public disclosure. Unclassified portions of final INRMPs shall be available electronically via the World Wide Web, CD-ROM, or other similar means. All INRMPs should undergo FOIA review, particularly for national security and sensitive information, before being disclosed to the public. For example, the specific locations of natural and cultural resources subject to pilfering or vandalism should not ordinarily be disclosed.

5. Coastal Zone Management

a. General. Marine Corps activities (e.g., operations, projects, and programs undertaken by or on behalf of the Marine Corps) that affect any land, water use, or natural resource of the coastal zone shall be carried out in a manner consistent, to the maximum extent practicable, with the enforceable policies of the coastal state's approved management program.

b. Wetlands Protection. Installations and units shall minimize the loss or degradation of coastal wetlands, enhance the natural value of wetlands, and protect water quality. Each installation shall support state development and implementation of any coastal nonpoint pollution control program affecting Marine Corps lands by identifying nonpoint sources, commenting on proposed management measures, and coordinating nonpoint source compliance efforts with the state.

6. Partnerships. Installations shall encourage the use of partnerships and volunteers, under the direction and approval of installation natural resources personnel, in connection with promoting natural resources management on the installation and facilities and programs for public outdoor recreation. Examples of effective partnership programs include Coastal America, Partners In Flight, Student Conservation Association, and the Chesapeake Bay Initiative. Each partnering or cooperating agreement in which installations formally participate must recognize that:

a. The primary Marine Corps national defense mission is to organize, train, and equip to provide FMFs of combined arms, together with supporting air components, for service with the fleet in the seizure or defense of advanced naval bases and for the conduct of such land operations as may be essential to the prosecution of a naval campaign. Marine Corps training on installations is vital to fulfilling this mission.

b. Actions specified in partnership or volunteer agreements shall not detract from Marine Corps national defense missions.

c. Installation lands shall not be used for mitigating off-installation, nonmilitary action impacts to the environment off the installation.

d. Installation lands shall not be set aside as permanent environmental preserves. The Marine Corps must maintain the flexibility to adapt its installation land use to respond to evolving United States' national defense strategy.

7. Exotic Species. Installations shall restrict the introduction of exotic species into any natural ecosystem, and exotic species shall not be deliberately introduced into any installation natural ecosystem unless the installation determines in accordance with NEPA or reference (ac) process that such an action would have no adverse impact. Exotic species control and removal measures, when determined to be practical and environmentally advantageous, shall be included in the installation INRMP.

8. Natural Resources Program Funding

a. Budgeting. Installation commanders shall ensure natural resources management funding is included within their installation POM submittals.

Funds from other sources (e.g., agricultural outleasing, forestry, and hunting and fishing user fees) may also be available to supplement natural resources management program funding. Installations should not rely on other funding sources, however, because their availability fluctuates and is beyond DOD control.

b. INRMP Execution. The installation commander's signature on the final INRMP completes the INRMP and constitutes a commitment to seek funding and execute, subject to the availability of funding, all "must fund" projects and activities in accordance with the timeframes identified in the INRMP.

9. Natural Resources on Installations Identified for Closure. The disposition of natural resources on installations proposed for closure shall be considered in installation disposal and reuse NEPA analysis. Conservation easements may be granted on closing-installation real property with significant ecological, cultural, scenic, recreational, or educational value.

The Marine Corps shall, in accordance with installation closure and reuse requirements, consider transferring real property on closing installations to conservation agencies or other organizations.

11201. LAND MANAGEMENT. The guidance in subsections 3, 6, 7, and 8 does not apply to overseas installations; however, guidance in subsection 3 can be applied, as appropriate, as a BMP.

1. Land Management. As applicable, installation INRMPs shall address the conservation, preservation, protection, rehabilitation, and enhancement of ecosystems, soils, water resources, wetlands and watersheds, estuaries, soil and water conservation, biodiversity, semi-improved and unimproved grounds maintenance, nonpoint source pollution control, landscaping, agricultural uses and potential uses, fire management, insect and disease management, range/grassland conditions and trends, critical or unique coastal barrier systems, critical habitats, and other special interest areas and the impact on natural resources from maintaining military readiness and the capability of installation lands to support the installation's mission. Installation INRMPs and the installation master plan shall also identify the boundaries of endangered and threatened species habitat, wetlands, and other geographically specific areas (e.g., highly erodible soils) important to natural resources stewardship.

2. Use of Native Plants in Landscaping. Each installation shall use environmentally and economically beneficial landscaping practices. Each installation shall, to the extent practicable, use regionally-native plants for landscaping, soil conservation, water conservation projects, and other natural resources management projects. Guidance for implementing this policy is contained in references (ad) and sections 2(d) and 3(a) of reference (ae).

3. Wetlands. In order to comply with the national policy to permit no overall net loss of wetlands, installations and units shall, as applicable:

a. Avoid, to the maximum extent practicable, wetlands destruction or degradation. Any installation or unit proposed action that cannot be sited to avoid a wetland shall be designed to minimize wetland degradation and

shall include regulatory agency-required compensatory mitigation. Marine Corps land, lands of other entities, and wetland banks operated by governmental agencies or private organizations may be used for Marine Corps project compensatory mitigation when regulatory permits authorize such use.

b. Request the OASN (E,I&E) approve/disapprove all installation permanent wetlands resource area proposals. Any installation agreement to a deed restriction on government property for the purpose of maintaining wetlands in perpetuity, however, requires property disposal authority delegated from the General Services Administration. CMC (LF) shall approve/disapprove each non-Marine Corps entity request to mitigate a non-Marine Corps proposed project on Marine Corps land. This approval/disapproval is based on the installation's ability to maintain military readiness and support the installation's mission requirements, the nexus of the proposed project to the land at issue, and whether granting the request is in the best interests of the United States.

c. Evaluate impact of proposed actions significantly affecting wetlands pursuant to reference (af) (See chapter 12 of this Manual).

d. Map installation wetlands boundaries and distribute maps depicting them to facility planners, range control, installation tenants, and other potential users.

e. Maintain installation technical expertise for wetlands protection, management, identification, surveying, and mapping.

f. In all installation master plans, identify land suitable for preserving, creating, enhancing, and restoring wetlands. The Marine Corps encourages installation wetlands creation or enhancement projects and wetland banking, where compatible with maintaining military readiness and the capability of installation lands to support the installation's mission.

4. Nonpoint Source Pollution. Installations shall develop and implement nonpoint source pollution management programs emphasizing nonpoint source P2 from ground-disturbing actions (e.g., military training and natural resources management).

5. Soil Conservation. Installations shall incorporate soil and water conservation measures and landscaping with native vegetation, as appropriate, in the preliminary engineering, design, and construction of facilities involving ground disturbance. They shall also require erosion prevention and control measures in the specifications for all ground-disturbing construction projects. Erosion prevention and control measure costs shall also be specifically identified in new project investigations and preliminary engineering reports.

6. Agricultural Outleasing

a. Outlease Agent. The NAVFACENGCOM is the Marine Corps agricultural outleasing agent, and installations may obtain agricultural outleasing assistance from the cognizant NAVFACENGCOM EFD/EFA. The EFD/EFA negotiate, execute, and administer real estate instruments, appraise land, and provide

cadastral support.

b. Money Rentals. The NAVFACENGCOM shall deposit agricultural outlease money rentals in a special account in the Treasury to be used in accordance with reference (g) and as directed in references (ag) and (ah).

c. Outlease Plan. Each agricultural outlease shall contain an outlease plan. The outlease plan shall contain:

(1) As part of the outleasing contract, a soil and water conservation plan that:

(a) Establishes specific practices and/or projects and an implementation schedule to be performed by the leasee to protect and improve the productivity and fertility of the land.

(b) Requires restoration of the leasehold upon termination of the lease.

(2) Agricultural and pest management practices for maintaining compliance with state and Federal regulatory requirements and consistency with maintaining military readiness and the capability of installation lands to support the installation's mission.

d. Other Instruments. The installation CG/CO shall sign all outlease contracts, supplemental outlease agreements, and agricultural outlease plans.

e. NEPA Compliance. NEPA compliance shall be complete before the installation commander signs the outlease contract.

7. Agricultural Outlease Proceeds. Installation agricultural outleasing administrative expenses that may be funded with money rental proceeds are generally limited to supervisory, technical, clerical, legal, and accounting costs attributable to agricultural outleasing and financing of installation multiple land use management programs. These expenses, which include initiating new leases and administering existing leases, are prioritized in the following order:

a. Costs, including personnel-related costs, directly attributable to agricultural outlease management.

b. Costs of developing and implementing the INRMP and supporting natural resources management programs.

c. Costs of improving or rehabilitating agricultural outlease land and natural resources to enhance agricultural productivity.

d. Costs of improving or rehabilitating land and water resources for soil and water conservation.

e. Costs of improving land and water resources for enhancing fish and wildlife habitat.

f. Costs of improving land and water for outdoor natural resources recreational use.

g. Costs of travel and training supporting integrated natural resources management programs.

h. Procurement, maintenance, and repair costs for equipment and materials supporting integrated natural resources management programs and projects.

8. Agricultural Outleasing Fund Provisions. CMC (LF) provides installations with agricultural outlease funds to support natural resources management operations. These funds shall only be used for natural resources management operations and shall not be transferred to other accounts or used for any other purpose. Installation natural resources management expenditures shall be consistent with the INRMP. Natural resources management program expenses that may be funded with agricultural outlease money rental proceeds do not include:

a. Mitigation or compensation for damages to natural resources caused by construction projects or military activities.

b. Costs of the production of forest products (e.g., lumber).

c. Costs of recurring grounds maintenance on improved and semi-improved grounds (e.g., mowing, fertilizing, irrigating, seeding, pruning, ornamental planting, and pest control).

d. Archaeological/cultural resources survey costs and other cultural resources management costs unrelated to natural resources management.

e. Costs of animal damage control unrelated to natural resources management. However, costs of controlling or reducing bird and animal aircraft strike hazards are not excluded.

f. General environmental and facilities organizational support costs unrelated to natural resources management.

11202. FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT. The guidance in subsections 1d and 2 does not apply to overseas installations.

1. Endangered and Threatened Species

a. General. The Marine Corps shall implement a fish and wildlife management program that complies with ESA or FGS consultation requirements. Installations shall, to the maximum extent practicable, avoid destruction or degradation of habitat of threatened and endangered species. Any installation or unit proposed action that cannot be sited to avoid habitat shall be designed to minimize habitat degradation and shall include regulatory agency-required compensatory mitigation. Marine Corps land, lands of other entities, and conservation banks operated by governmental agencies or private organizations may be used for Marine Corps project compensatory mitigation when regulatory authority approves such use.

b. Recovery. The Marine Corps shall enhance the recovery of endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

c. Candidate Species. Each installation shall inventory and monitor candidate species to evaluate and document any effects that military activities may have upon them. Installations should, to the maximum extent practicable, proactively manage candidate species populations to prevent impacts that could lead to listing of the species as threatened or endangered.

d. Species at Risk. Reference (i) does not protect other "Species at Risk", including but not limited to, state-listed species or IUCN Red List imperiled or threatened species. However, each installation should inventory and monitor them to the extent practicable because reference (af) may require an installation or unit consider a proposed action's impacts on state-listed species and state laws and regulations may govern their possession, propagation, sale, or taking on the installation.

2. Management

a. Cooperative Agreements. In addition to the use of partnerships and volunteers to promote natural resources management on the installation, installation CGs/COs may execute cooperative agreements with other state and local agencies to exchange information, conduct research, or study projects contributing to installation INRMP preparation and implementation.

b. Natural Resources Law Enforcement

(1) Enforcing natural resources protection laws, including laws protecting outdoor recreational activities depending on natural resources, shall be an integral part of the installation natural resources management program. The installation environmental or natural resources manager shall direct natural resources law enforcement and installation conservation law enforcement officer conduct.

(2) Installations permitting hunting, fishing, and/or trapping shall issue regulations for harvesting fish and wildlife and develop procedures for enforcing applicable laws and regulations.

c. Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping Permit Fee Deposits. Each installation shall deposit hunting, fishing, and trapping permit fee proceeds into the Budget Clearing Account (Suspense) Navy 17X5095. The permit fee proceeds shall be delivered to the local disbursing officer for deposit, supported by an original and three copies of the Cash Collection Voucher (DD Form 1131) containing the following accounting data:

(1) Marine Corps 7X5095.27XX. (The last two digits of the subhead (i.e., XX) reflect the fiscal year).

(2) Unit Identification Code and the name of the generating installation.

(3) The stated purpose (e.g., "proceeds collected from the sale of

installation hunting and fishing access licenses").

(4) The collection date (must be the date payment is received).

(5) Note: Each installation is required to forward a copy of each DD Form 1131 to CMC (LF) at the end of each quarter.

d. Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping Permit Fee Use. Permit fee proceeds may be available to reimburse installation fish and wildlife enhancement program expenses. Each installation shall request authority from CMC (LF) to use these funds, and each request shall include:

(1) A financial summary of the installation's deposits to the Budget Clearing Account by prior fiscal year and current fiscal year.

(2) The unobligated balance of the installation's deposits to the Budget Clearing Account brought forward from the preceding fiscal year (actual).

(3) An estimate of fees to be collected and number of licenses to be sold during the remaining current and the next fiscal years. Actual licenses sold and fees collected is required at the end of each fiscal year.

e. Each installation commander shall implement a fish and wildlife management program and ensure the program expenses funded with permit fee proceeds do not exceed the amount of permit fee proceeds authorized by CMC (LF) to be available to the installation from the Budget Clearing Account. Each installation's fish and wildlife permit fee receipts and expenditures accounting shall comply with references (ai) and (aj).

f. Private Organizations

(1) Installation rod and gun clubs, conservation organizations established as part of the command recreation program, and other private organizations may volunteer services to promote installation natural resources management and facilities and programs for public outdoor recreation on the installation.

(2) Membership in a private organization shall not be a prerequisite to hunt, fish, or trap on an installation. Similarly, an installation's acceptance of a private organization volunteered services supporting installation natural resources management and facilities and programs for public outdoor recreation on the installation shall not require or be conditioned on excluding the public in any way from hunting, fishing, or trapping on the installation.

(3) Any private organization membership fee shall exclude the cost of obtaining an installation hunting, fishing, or trapping permit on the installation when the installation permit fee is based, in part, under the provisions of the installation's INRMP.

(4) Installations shall not solicit or accept private organization representation before regulatory authority.

(5) Private organization programs and projects on the installation shall comply with the installation INRMP and other Base orders and instructions.

11203. FOREST MANAGEMENT. The guidance in 11203 does not apply to overseas installations; however, guidance in subsection 1 can be applied, as appropriate, as a BMP.

1. Management. Each installation shall manage its forest in accordance with the installation INRMP.

2. Proceeds. Each installation shall identify its forest product sale proceeds with the applicable cost accounting code.

3. Forest Management Installations

a. Installations. The following installations may implement a Forest Management Program:

- (1) MCB Quantico, VA.
- (2) MCAS Cherry Point, NC.
- (3) MCB Camp Lejeune, NC.
- (4) MCAS Beaufort, SC.
- (5) MCRD Parris Island, SC.
- (6) MCLB Albany, GA.

b. Forest Product Funds. Each installation implementing a forest management program may sell timber and other forest products. Subject to the availability of funds, CMC (LF) shall reimburse installations for their costs for the production of forest products. These funds shall only be used for reimbursable forest product costs and shall not be transferred to other accounts or used for any other purpose. Installation forest product expenditures shall be consistent with the INRMP.

4. Forestry Expenditures. Installations shall plan and report reimbursable forest product costs using Cost Account Codes 3B10 through 3B70 in compliance with reference (ak) and reference (al). Reimbursable costs of expenditures shall be directly related to the economic production of forest products and may include:

- a. Timber stand improvement.
- b. Reforestation.
- c. Forest protection.
- d. Timber access road maintenance.

- e. Timber sale administration.
- f. Timber management.
- g. Equipment purchases.

5. Revenue Deposits. Installation forest product sale proceeds shall be deposited into the Budget Clearing Account (Suspense) Navy (17F3875). The forest product sale proceeds shall be delivered to the local disbursing officer for deposit, supported by an original and three copies of the Cash Collection Voucher (DD Form 1131) that must contain the following accounting data:

- a. Marine Corps 7F3875.27XX. (The last two digits of the subhead (i.e., XX) reflect the fiscal year.).
- b. Unit Identification Code and name of the generating installation.
- c. The stated purpose (e.g., "proceeds collected from the sale of forest products").
- d. The collection date (must be the date payment is received). Each installation selling forest products shall also forward a copy of the DD Form 1131 to the CMC (LF).

6. Reporting Requirements. The Forestry Program Report is required by the CMC (LF) for the installations listed above. The report shall be submitted to CMC(LF) no later than ten business days following the end of each quarter. Report Control Symbol DD-5090-05 is assigned to this reporting requirement.

11204. WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT. The policies and standards adopted by reference in paragraph 11204.1 do not apply to overseas installations; however, guidance in the remaining paragraphs of 11204 can be applied, as appropriate, as BMPs.

1. Integrated Wildland Fire Management Policy. The Marine Corps adopts the following policies and standards by reference:

- a. Reference (am).
- b. Reference (an).
- c. Reference (ao).
- d. Reference (ap).
- e. Reference (aq).
- f. Reference (ar).

2. Applicability

- a. Installations with burnable acreage, or bordered by burnable acreage,

will develop and implement a Wildland Fire Management Plan (WFMP). The WFMP will be incorporated into or consistent with the INRMP and the Integrated Cultural Resources Plan.

b. Installations and/or facilities with minor wildfire hazard and/or prescribed burning activities may be exempted from WFMP requirements by CMC (LF). WFMP exemption requests should explain the outcome of the risk analysis conducted by the installation or command (e.g., under normal or worst case conditions, wildfires would rarely threaten people or facilities).

3. Program Authority

a. The installation commander or appropriate designee, defines the roles and responsibilities for wildland fire management on the installation, plans and programs resources, and will designate an installation Wildland Fire Program Manager in either the Fire and Emergency Services (F&ES) or Conservation/Natural Resources organization.

b. The installation commander, or appropriate designee, approves the installation WFMP.

c. The installation Wildland Fire Program Manager, in coordination with the installation Conservation/Natural Resources Manager and/or F&ES Fire Chief, is responsible for development of the WFMP. Additionally, the Wildland Fire Program Manager, in coordination with the installation Conservation/Natural Resources Manager and/or the F&ES Fire Chief, reviews and approves burn plans for prescribed fires consistent with the WFMP, the INRMP, and other applicable operating instructions.

d. The installation commander, or appropriate designee, approves the deployment of Marine Corps civilian firefighters to any off-installation incident. For F&ES firefighters, the installation commander may establish pre-deployment approval for responses covered by established mutual aid agreements.

4. Wildland Fire Organization Standards. Marine Corps organizations involved in wildland fire activities will incorporate NWCG and NIMS standards into their organizational structure when necessary to accommodate cooperation and integration with other Federal, state, and local wildland fire organizations across jurisdictional boundaries.

5. Training and Fitness Standards for Wildland Fire Management Personnel

a. Training Standards

(1) All civilian, contractor, and emergency services personnel involved in wildland fire management must be trained for their expected level of involvement in the wildland fire organization. Training shall meet the applicable NFPA or NWCG Standards for wildland fire activities. State training by the state in which the installation is located is also acceptable if appropriate for the personnel's expected level of involvement in wildland fire activities.

(2) Personnel in the fire protection and prevention GS-081 job series will meet the training standards specified in references (as) and (at), equivalent reference (au) training or equivalent state training requirements. Personnel who have learned skills from outside wildfire suppression, such as agency specific training programs or training and work in prescribed fire, structural fire, law enforcement, search and rescue, etc. may not be required to complete specific courses in order to qualify in a wildland fire position. However, position task books must be completed for documentation of the training.

(3) Personnel in the natural resources job series (GS-401 thru GS-499), archaeologist (GS-0193), and natural/cultural resources contractors with jobs requiring wildland fire suppression responsibilities must meet either the certifications as per references (as) and (at) or the equivalent reference (av) certifications.

(4) Personnel mobilized to participate in wildland fire management activities on Federal properties not under DOD jurisdiction, through the National Inter-Agency Fire Center (NIFC) and the Joint Director of Military Support (JDOMS) requests (see paragraph 12), must be certified for the expected level of involvement under NWCG standards. GS-081 job series and DOD contractor personnel that seek wildland fire certifications other than the NFPA Job Levels listed in Table 11.1 must comply with the appropriate NWCG criteria.

(5) Position descriptions for new hires that will participate in wildland fire activities will reflect the expected level of involvement and required training. Position descriptions for natural/cultural resources personnel with wildland fire management duties must state if the position qualifies the position holder as a primary or secondary wildland firefighter, as described in reference (aw). Natural resources personnel not classified as a primary or secondary wildland firefighter may perform collateral duties in wildland fire management activities as qualified.

(6) Personnel holding positions as primary and secondary wildland firefighters will be certified, as a minimum requirement, in Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation and Standard First Aid by the American Red Cross or comparable certification authority.

(7) HQ Air Force Civil Engineering Support Agency/Civil Engineering Fire Protection is the executive agent for the DOD F&ES Certification Program and will be responsible for issuing, maintaining, and tracking of NFPA wildland firefighter certifications for levels identified in Table 11-1. The installation Wildland Fire Program Manager is responsible for issuing, signing, and tracking of NWCG Qualification Card/ICS (also known as "red cards") for installation personnel. Installations are encouraged to partner with NWCG units to issue, maintain, and track qualifications and to conduct and receive training.

b. Physical Fitness Standards

(1) The installation WFMP will describe a measurable and objective medical examination or physical fitness test (step-test, pack test, etc.)

that will be used to establish fitness standards for personnel that participate in wildland fire management activities. All personnel involved in wildland fire activities must meet the medical examination or physical fitness test annually. NWCG publications, references (ax), (ay), (az), and (ba), provide guidance for establishing physical fitness standards for wildland fire management activities.

The WFMP will describe the procedures for notifying affected employees of the exam or test and how it relates to being qualified for their jobs, how employees are to be certified as fit to train for and take the physical fitness test, and the repercussions of failing the exam or test and procedures for re-examination or re-testing. All required exams and tests will be paid for by the government.

(2) Personnel whose job description requires participation in wildland fire management activities as a primary or secondary firefighter on Marine Corps installations will meet the pre-employment medical and physical examination criteria contained in reference (bb).

6. WFMP Components. The installation WFMP should be developed to reduce wildfire potential, protect and enhance valuable natural resources, integrate applicable state and local permit and reporting requirements, and implement ecosystem management goals and objectives on Marine Corps installations. The WFMP will directly support the Marine Corps mission and be consistent with installation emergency operations plans. As a minimum, the installation WFMP will include the following components:

a. Goals and Objectives. The WFMP shall establish goals and objectives for the wildland fire management program on the installation. The WFMP will identify all wildland fire management strategies including military training availability, ecosystem sustainability, and protection of F&ES personnel and the public.

b. Organizational Structure. The WFMP will describe the wildland fire management organizational structure and will indicate its position within the installation command structure. The organizational structure for wildland fire activities will be consistent with NWCG and NIMS ICS standards.

c. Wildland Fire Preparedness. The WFMP will include wildland fire preparedness, preplanned dispatch for both initial and extended attack, and prescribed fire and prevention per reference (bc). The minimum level of service for wildfire suppression shall consist of a direct wildland attack capability within 10 minutes of arrival of the initial wildland fire company at the fire scene.

d. Training Program. Include procedures to train all personnel involved in wildland fire management activities to the appropriate reference (bd) or reference (as) as described in Paragraph 6 of this policy.

e. Interagency Cooperation and Mutual Aid Agreements. Installations are encouraged to develop regional partnerships for wildland fire management support by means of reciprocal agreements with other Federal, state, local and private entities to share human, logistical, and operational resources.

Emergency assistance and mutual aid agreements will conform to the guidelines stated in references (h) and (be). Include IAGs and mutual assistance agreements in the WFMP as references or appendices.

f. Smoke Management and Air Quality. Describe the mission, environmental, human health and safety factors specific to the installation and region that affect smoke management and identify necessary mitigation practices. Refer to reference (bf) for guidance on factors to consider.

g. Safety and Emergency Operations. The WFMP must reflect that firefighter and public safety is the first priority in every wildland fire management activity. The WFMP will identify installation-specific safety and emergency operations protocols. The WFMP will require that all personnel involved in direct wildland fire management activities are outfitted with protective clothing and equipment that meets reference (bg).

h. Risk Assessment/Decision Analysis Processes. Sound operational risk management will be the foundation of the WFMP. Identify the indices and/or fire danger rating system that will be used to assess wildfire risk and potential fire behavior. The indices and/or fire danger rating system must adequately describe fire hazard, severity, intensity, and other significant factors affecting the protection of life and property. Identify the environmental factors that will be measured prior to ignition of a prescribed fire treatment. Identify normal and unique weather patterns that affect fire behavior on the installation.

i. Wildland Fire History. Include in the WFMP an analysis of both recent and long-term wildland fire history on the installation and in the region.

j. Natural and Cultural Resources Considerations Checklist. Provide a checklist in the WFMP that can be used to identify sensitive natural and cultural resources that should be given consideration before conducting any wildland fire management activity.

k. Mission Impact Considerations. Identify the potential impacts to the installation mission (positive and negative) that may occur as a result of implementation of the WFMP.

l. Wildland Fuel Factors. Identify the effects of installation fuel types and fuel loads on fire behavior. Display data on fuel types and fuel loading by maps or other means. Conduct fuel surveys to collect wildland fire fuels data if necessary.

m. Monitoring Requirements. Identify the environmental factors that will be monitored and the frequency of monitoring required for both a wildfire and prescribed fire. Identify post-fire assessment protocols for both wildfire and prescribed fires.

n. Public Relations. Identify a protocol for notifying the media and affected persons for wildfire incidents and prescribed burning activities.

o. Funding Requirements. Identify the funding requirements to train and equip wildland fire management personnel to ensure safe, effective, and cost-efficient operations in support of the WFMP. Identify the appropriate sources of funding for wildland fire activities.

(1) The costs associated with developing and drafting installation WFMPs or amending existing WFMPs in order to comply with this order will be funded by the O&M,MC account.

(2) Wildland fire management activities that are conducted for the purpose of compliance with environmental laws and regulations will be supported by conservation funds.

(3) Wildfire suppression, prescribed burning and other wildland fire management activities to support training, range use, munitions testing and evaluation, or other mission activity will be supported by the responsible activity through direct funding or reimbursement.

(4) Funding for wildfire prevention and fuels management for hazard reduction is an installation operations and maintenance responsibility.

(5) In accordance with reference (1), expenditures for the protection and maintenance of commercial forests can be reimbursed by proceeds derived from the sale of forest products; however, the total reimbursement for forest management obligations related to wildland fire management cannot exceed the forest management program proceeds in a given fiscal year on the installation.

p. Personnel Training and Certification Standards and Records. The WFMP will identify the staffing requirements, according to specific certification and training requirements, for the tasks associated with wildland fire management activities on the installation. Current training and qualification records will be maintained for all personnel involved in wildland fire management activities.

q. NEPA process for WFMP Implementation. Actions proposed in any WFMP may constitute a major Federal action as defined in section 18, paragraph (b)(2) of reference (bh). Major Federal actions must be evaluated for potential environmental effects. The NEPA document prepared for the installation INRMP may also include and provide analysis of the WFMP.

7. Prescribed Fires

a. Use of Prescribed Fire on Marine Corps Installations. Prescribed fire can be used as a management tool to attain the goals and objectives of the INRMP and to support other Marine Corps mission needs. Two types of prescribed fires are recognized: 1) those ignited by qualified personnel in accordance with an approved site-specific burn plan, and 2) wildfires managed under prescribed conditions as addressed in an approved WFMP.

b. Site-Specific Burn Plans. A site-specific burn plan will be developed for each prescribed burn conducted on Marine Corps property. The installation WFMP will identify the

required components for site-specific burn plans. At a minimum, burn plans will include the following:

- (1) Burn objectives.
- (2) Acceptable weather and fuel moisture parameters.
- (3) Required personnel and equipment resources.
- (4) Burn area map.
- (5) Smoke management plan.
- (6) Safety considerations.
- (7) Pre-burn authorization/notification checklist.
- (8) Coordination to consider mission, wildlife, endangered species, cultural resources, and noxious weed effects.
- (9) Alternative plan - to cover plan of action if wind or weather conditions change.
- (10) Plan for analysis of burn success and identification of lessons learned.

c. Use of Fire Breaks. When planning for prescribed fires, and when suppressing wildfire, utilize natural and existing man-made features whenever possible. Fire breaks, if required, must be constructed, maintained, or rehabilitated to prevent erosion.

8. Labor Relations. In the implementation of this policy guidance, activities shall ensure compliance with their statutory labor relations obligations.

9. Mutual Aid

a. Following proper coordination with the OSD through United States Northern Command (NORTHCOM) and JDOMS, military assistance (both military and civilian personnel) may be furnished to the NIFC in national fire emergencies pursuant to reference (bi) and subsequent modifications. Support for wildland fire incidents is reimbursable under reference (bj). Procedures for deployment of civilian personnel are provided in paragraph 11204.12.

b. Local area assistance included in existing agreements may be authorized by the installation commander. Immediate response requests will be handled per references (bk).

10. Reporting

a. Each installation will report to HQMC Natural Resources Manager, annually, by 31 December, the number of installation acres burned by wildfires and the number of acres prescribed burned for the just completed

fiscal year. All F&ES responses to wildland fire incidents shall be reported to the National Fire Incident Reporting System per reference (h).

b. Report all requests for civilian firefighter assistance or deployment per paragraph 11204.12.

11. Compliance. Compliance with this policy will be monitored and evaluated as part of the HQMC Benchmark ECE program in accordance with reference (bl).

12. Deployment And Reimbursement Procedures for Wildland Fire (not applicable outside the Continental U.S.)

a. DOD Civilian Firefighter Deployment

(1) Reference (bm) pre-approves the use of DOD civilian firefighters on wildfire incidents managed by other Federal agencies. Requests will be issued from regional or local Geographic Area Coordinating Centers to the specific civilian resources based on local mutual aid agreements. Notification procedures in paragraph 2 must be followed. Conditions for any deployment of civilian personnel include willingness of civilians to volunteer, approval by the installation commander, and coordination (through the chain of command) with JDOMS. Because of the rapid response necessary for deployment when requested by NIFC, permission should be obtained at the beginning of the fire season. The assignment must be accomplished by detail (i.e., temporary duty (TDY)).

(2) Notification Procedures. When a firefighter is deployed (and upon return), the installation wildland fire program manager, or acting, will report the deployment (or return) via e-mail to NORTHCOM and JDOMS with copy to the chain of command up to CMC (LF). The e-mail should include the name(s) of the firefighter(s), installation name, date of departure, name or location of wildfire (if known), and length of deployment (if known).

(3) Firefighter's Responsibilities. After obtaining the installation commander's permission, the civilian firefighter, through the installation wildland fire program manager, must ensure the following conditions are met.

(a) Passed current physical fitness requirement for NWCG position(s).

(b) Has current NWCG qualification card (red card).

(c) Has name and qualifications posted on the local wildland fire coordination center dispatch system.

(d) Has made arrangements for emergency TDY authorization.

(e) Ensured that the sponsoring Federal agency involved with the mutual aid agreement has issued or will issue a funds obligating document for reimbursement of expenses or has made other arrangements for reimbursement of expenses.

b. Fiscal and Entitlement Support. Support is fully reimbursable under

reference (bj). Volunteers will continue to be paid from their current payroll offices. All actual costs, including base salary, overtime, TDY travel, and per diem will be paid in accordance with paragraph 11204.12(b)(2). Employees selected for these assignments would be detailed to a set of duties and placed on TDY. The civilian firefighter will turn in all timesheets on return or, if possible, send to timekeeper weekly while deployed.

(1) Benefits and Entitlements. All current enrollments in Federal benefit coverage would continue (i.e., Federal Employees Health Benefits, Federal Employee Group Life Insurance, Thrift Savings Plan, Workers Compensation, etc.). Individuals with private insurance should check with their respective carriers to determine coverage. Firefighters identified for deployment should be advised to update their designation of beneficiaries, emergency contacts, and medical allergies statements. If required, components would submit a request for waiver of the biweekly maximum earnings limitation for approval.

(2) Reimbursement. Local resource managers should establish a local automatic reimbursable account. Actual costs related to the wildfire incident would be billed to this account. At the beginning of the fire season or prior to deployment, ensure that a funds-obligating document is received by the installation from the sponsoring Federal agency involved (such as the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, FWS, National Park Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs) or ensure that other reimbursement processes are in place. The funds obligating document (similar to a Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request) may be a Form AD-672 Reimbursement or Advance of Funds Agreement, BLM Form 1681-3, a Resource Order, or similar document. This document will contain financial information for reimbursement and billing procedures. Within thirty (30) calendar days after the month in which the deployment occurred, the employee will turn in all wildfire time records and all other expense records. The local resource manager will ensure that employee's time and travel voucher cover all expenses (e.g., night differential, hazard pay). The local resource manager will bill the Federal agency listed on the funds obligating document for reimbursement of all expenses.

11205. OUTDOOR RECREATION. The guidance in paragraph 11205 does not apply to overseas installations.

1. Outdoor Recreation Planning. Each installation may develop outdoor recreation policies and programs in consultation with the DOI and the appropriate state agency. Any installation recreation resource use selection procedures shall be impartial.

2. Recreational Off-Road Vehicles

a. Installation commanders shall give preference to existing trails when designating roads for off-road vehicle use.

b. When considering the suitability of areas and trails for off-road vehicle use, installation commanders shall consider the applicability of NEPA analysis and the foreseeable impacts of each type of off-road vehicle, taking

into account its seasonal use, range, and resulting impacts to installation natural resources, military readiness, and the capability of installation lands to support the installation's mission, and other recreation resources.

c. Any decision to open installation lands to off-road vehicle use shall apply equally to the public and military personnel. Each installation shall control off-road vehicle use to maintain public safety, security, military readiness, and natural resources. Therefore, any decision to open installation lands to off-road vehicle use shall include procedures for controlling the number and types of off-road vehicles, limiting their frequency and intensity of use, and limiting their range (i.e., restricting access to areas and trails authorized for off-road vehicle use).

d. Installations may deny installation access to persons violating off-road vehicle requirements.

e. If the installation commander or a designee determines that off-road vehicle use will cause or is causing considerable adverse effects on the soil, vegetation, wildlife, wildlife habitat, or cultural or historic resources, the installation will immediately prohibit such off-road vehicle use until the effects have been eliminated and measures have been implemented to prevent their recurrence.

11206. ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION. Each installation shall utilize installation natural resources professionals' expertise in contingency planning and in acting as a natural resources trustee. Each installation shall also coordinate with stakeholders when acting as a natural resources trustee.

CHAPTER 11

NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

SECTION 3: RESPONSIBILITIES

11300. CMC (LF)/COMMANDER MCICOM

1. Ensure a Marine Corps-wide organizational capability and the programming necessary to establish and maintain installation integrated natural resources management programs.
2. Provide installations policy for establishing and maintaining INRMPS.
3. Coordinate Marine Corps natural resources management program issues with other Federal agencies, the military services, and private organizations.
4. Identify Marine Corps-wide program and project priorities, and distribute available funds to meet installation natural resources management requirements that cannot be locally funded.
5. Maintain reports and other records of installation natural resources business transactions (e.g., agricultural outlease proceeds; hunting, fishing, and trapping permit fee proceeds; forest product sales proceeds) and track natural resources management expenditures charged to applicable accounts.
6. Ensure, through field visits and the ECE Program, Marine Corps compliance with applicable Federal, state, FGS and local natural resource management requirements.
7. Assist installations in resolving any disputes with Federal, state, and local natural resource regulatory officials.

11301. CG OF MCI EAST, WEST, AND PACIFIC

1. Coordinate proposals for new and continuing actions that affect natural resources with the managers of those resources.
2. Take appropriate action to ensure that authorized, funded, or conducted actions comply with reference (af) and all related natural and cultural resources laws and E.O.s.

11302. CG/CO OF MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS AND COMMARFORRES

1. Ensure the installation implements the requirements and policies of this chapter.
2. Act as the installation natural resources trustee.

REFERENCES

- (a) 7 U.S.C. 136-136y
- (b) 16 U.S.C. 1451-1465
- (c) Office of the Undersecretary of Defense, Memorandum for Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations, Logistics and Environment), Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations and Environment), Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Manpower, Reserve Affairs, Installations and Environment), "Volunteer and Partnership Cost-Share Program," January 12, 1994
- (d) Federal Register, Volume 60, page 58605, November 28, 1995
- (e) Federal Register, Volume 65, page 66913, November 7, 2000
- (f) Federal Register, Volume 65, page 62565, October 18, 2000
- (g) 10 U.S.C. 2667
- (h) DOD Instruction 6055.06, "DOD Fire and Emergency Services (F&ES) Program," December 21, 2006
- (i) 16 U.S.C 1531-1544
- (j) 16 U.S.C. 703-712
- (k) Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 10, Section 13, "List of Migratory Birds," 2005 edition
- (l) 10 U.S.C. 2665
- (m) DOD Financial Management Regulation, Volume 11A, "Reimbursable Operations, Policy and Procedures, Chapter 16 - Accounting for Production and Sale of Forest Products," August 2002
- (n) Title 1533.31 of the Forest Service Manual - "Forest Insect and Disease Suppression Agreement," Washington Office (WO) Amendment 1500-91-9, effective June 13, 1991
- (o) 42 U.S.C. 9601-9675
- (p) Executive Order 12580, "Superfund Implementation," January 23, 1987
- (q) Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 402, "Interagency Cooperation - Endangered Species Act of 1973, As Amended," 2006 edition
- (r) MCO 5090.4A
- (s) Title 43, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 11, "Natural Resource Damage Assessments," 2006 edition

- (t) Executive Order 11987, "Exotic Organisms," May 24, 1977
- (u) Title 32, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 190, Section 3, "Definitions," 2005 edition
- (v) Executive Order 13112, "Invasive Species," February 3, 1999
- (w) 7 U.S.C. 7701-7772
- (x) Executive Order 11644, "Use of Off-Road Vehicles on the Public Lands," February 8, 1972
- (y) Title 33, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 328, Section 3, "Definitions," 2007 edition
- (z) Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 122, Section 2, "Definitions," 2007 edition
- (aa) 16 U.S.C. 670-670f
- (ab) 16 U.S.C. 470-470w-6
- (ac) 32 CFR 187
- (ad) Presidential Memorandum, "Environmentally and Economically Beneficial Practices on Federal Landscaped Grounds," April 26, 1994
- (ae) Executive Order 13423, "Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management," January 24, 2007
- (af) 42 U.S.C. 4321-4347
- (ag) NAVFAC P-73, Chapter 19, "Real Estate Procedural Manual"
- (ah) NAVFAC P-73, Volume 2, "Natural Resources Management Procedural Manual"
- (ai) NAVCOMPT Manual, paragraph 032114
- (aj) MCO 7301.116
- (ak) DoD FMR
- (al) MCO P7300.21A
- (am) The Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy and Program Review of 1995 (as updated, Jan 01)
- (an) Interagency Strategy for the Implementation of the Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy, June 20, 2003
- (ao) The National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG), National Interagency Incident Management System Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide (PMS 310-1/NFES 1414)

(ap) The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 1051 - Standard for Wildland Firefighter Professional Qualifications, NFPA Standard 1143 - Standard for Wildland Fire Management, and NFPA Standard 1144 - Standard for Protection of Life and Property from Wildfire

(aq) DOD Instruction 6055.06, 21 Dec 06, DOD Fire and Emergency Services Program

(ar) Homeland Security Presidential Directive-5 (HSPD-5), National Incident Management System (NIMS)

(as) National Fire Protection Association 1051, "Standard for Wildland Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications," 2007 edition

(at) National Fire Protection Association 1002, "Standard for Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Professional Qualifications," 2003 edition

(au) NWCG Driver/Operator Professional Qualification System Guide (PMS 310-1/NFES 1414)

(av) NWCG Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide (PMS 310-1/NFES 1414)

(aw) Office of Personnel Management, "CSRS and FERS Handbook for Personnel and Payroll Offices, Chapter 46 - Special Retirement Provisions for Law Enforcement Officers, Firefighters, Air Traffic Controllers, and Military Reserve Technicians," April 1998

(ax) National Wildfire Coordination Group, National Interagency Incident Management System, Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide, PMS 310-1/NFES 1414, April 2006

(ay) National Wildlife Coordination Group, National Fire Equipment System, "Fitness and Work Capacity: Second Edition," NFES 1596, PMS 304-2, 1997

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(bb) DOD 6055.05M, "Occupational Medical Examinations and Surveillance Manual," May 2, 2007

(bc) National Fire Protection Association 1710, Standard for the Organization and Deployment of Fire Suppression Operations, Emergency Medical Operations, and Special Operations to the Public by Career Fire Departments," 2004 edition

(bd) NWCG PMS qualification documents (PMS 310)

(be) MCO P11000.11B

(bf) National Wildfire Coordination Group, National Fire Equipment System,

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(bg) NFPA 1977 - Standard on Protective Clothing and Equipment for Wildland Fire Fighting

(bh) Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 1500-1508, "Council on Environmental Quality NEPA-implementing Regulations," 2005 edition

(bi) Interagency Agreement for the Provision of Temporary Support During Wildland Firefighting Operations among the United States Department of the Interior, the United States Department of Agriculture and the United States Department of Defense, 2005

(bj) 31 U.S.C. 1535

(bk) DOD Directive 3025.1, "Military Support to Civil Authorities (MSCA)," January 15, 1993

(bl) MCO P5090.2A

(bm) DTG 281832Z APR 06 OPER/DOD SUPPORT OF CIVIL AUTHORITIES//MSGID/ORDER/CJSC STANDING EXORD.

Table 11-1.--Correlation of NFPA and NWCG Certification Levels and Corresponding NWCG Training Requirements for Attaining Each Level		
NFPA Job Title	NWCG Equivalent	NWCG Equivalent Training
Wildland Fire Fighter I	Firefighter II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S-130 Fire Fighter Training • S-190 Introduction to Fire Behavior • L-180 Human Factors on the Fireline • I-100 Introduction to the Incident Command System • RT-130 Annual Fireline Safety Refresher
Wildland Fire Fighter II	Firefighter I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S-131 Advanced Fire Fighter Training • S-133 Look Up, Look Down, Look Around • S-201 Supervisory Concepts and Techniques • S-211 Portable Pumps and Water Use • S-212 Wildland Fire Chain Saws • S-216 Driving for the Fire Service • RT-130 Annual Fireline Safety Refresher
Wildland Fire Officer I	Single Resource Boss or Incident Commander Type 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S-200 Initial Attack Incident Commander • S-213 Tractor Use/Tractor Boss* • S-214 Tanker Use/Tanker Boss* • S-215 Fire Operations in the Urban Interface • S-230 Crew Boss (Single Resource)* • S-231 Engine Boss (Single Resource)* • S-234 Ignition Operations • S-260 Fire Business Management Principles • S-270 Basic Air Operations • S-290 Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior • I-200 Basic Incident Command System • P-151 Wildfire origin and Cause Determination • RT-130 Annual Fireline Safety Refresher <p><i>*Only one of these courses is required, depending upon the type of Single Resource Boss certification desired.</i></p>

Table 11-1.--Correlation of NFPA and NWCG Certification Levels and Corresponding NWCG Training Requirements for Attaining Each Level--Continued		
NFPA Job Title	NWCG Equivalent	NWCG Equivalent Training
Wildland Fire Officer II	Incident Commander Type 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S-300 Incident Command Extended Attack • S-301 Leadership and Organizational Development • S-330 Task Force/Strike Team Leader • S-390 Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior Calculations • I-300 Intermediate Incident Command System • RT-130 Annual Fireline Safety Refresher