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Natural Resources

**CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**

COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY

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This instruction implements AFPD 32-70, *Environment Quality*, and prescribes the policies and responsibilities for the management and conservation of land, water, forest, fish, wildlife and outdoor recreation resources, as well as historical and archeological site protection on Elmendorf AFB. These resources will be managed to sustain biodiversity under the principles of multiple-use and sustained yield within the limitations of the overriding military mission. It's the responsibility of the commander at all levels to ensure compliance with this instruction. This instruction applies to any individual on Elmendorf AFB; however, it does not apply to the US Air Force Reserves and Air National Guard units and members. Violations of the specific prohibitions and requirements of this instruction by military personnel may result in prosecution under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ).

1. Background Concepts and Functional Area Responsibilities:

1.1. Policy :

1.1.1. Land acquired for Air Force use is for national defense. This land is required to support the military mission. In most instances, it can concurrently and compatibly support sustained yields of renewable natural resources. The President and Congress through various public laws have directed conservation measures be implemented on all military lands.

1.1.2. Elmendorf AFB has a public land trusteeship responsibility to protect and enhance environmental quality through the maintenance of natural diversity and ecosystem sustainability. To fulfill its commitment to stewardship the installation will comply with all laws, regulations, and directives governing the management of natural and cultural resources.

1.2. Responsibilities:

1.2.1. The installation commander is responsible for ensuring natural and cultural resource plans, agreements, and activities are developed and monitored on Elmendorf AFB.

1.2.2. The Base Civil Engineer (BCE) is responsible for developing and implementing an integrated natural resources management program. The OPR for the natural resources programs is 3 SPTG/ CEVN.

1.2.3. The Commander, 3rd Security Police Squadron (3 SPS) is responsible for enforcing all laws on the installation. The Commander, 3 SPS delegates the authority to 3rd Civil Engineering Squadron, Base Natural Resources (3 CES/CEVP) to enforce all natural resources regulations governing the use of base lands. Selected military conservation agents (MCA) will provide enforcement of natural and cultural resources along with off-road vehicle regulations . In accordance with security police requirements, agents selected and trained to provide enforcement will be designated, in writing, by the Commander, 3 SPS.

2. Implementing Integrated Natural Resources Management:

2.1. Ecosystem Management. Elmendorf AFB vegetation, wildlife resources, wetlands, lakes, and streams will be managed within the limitations of the overriding military mission under the principles of multiple ecosystem management.

2.2. Management Priorities. The 3rd Wing (3 WG) will strive to protect, improve, and enhance environmental quality on Elmendorf AFB without negatively impacting the mission of the 3 WG.

2.2.1. First priority will be given to the protection, preservation, and enhancement of habitat used by threatened and endangered species.

2.2.2. Second priority will be given to maintaining biodiversity through the protection, preservation, and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat.

2.2.3. Third priority will be given to the development, management, and conservation of areas capable of providing intensive recreation use, such as winter sport sites, picnic areas, and nature trails. Such areas will be managed primarily for their recreational value.

2.2.4. Fourth priority will be to manage the remaining areas to provide for the greatest public benefit. This determination must be based upon an analysis of the ecological factors involved, the supply and demand relationship of the various resources and uses made of the resource. In determining the greatest benefit, full consideration must be given to tangible and intangible social and economic values.

2.3. Conservation Education. This will be a major component of the natural resources program. Every effort will be made to educate base personnel on all aspects of the program through:

2.3.1. Maintenance of wildlife displays at the conservation office.

2.3.2. Presentation of briefings to newcomers, units, organizations, and community schools.

2.3.3. Publication of resource information articles, and notices in the Sourdough Sentinel, and the Daily Bulletin.

2.4. Program Staffing:

2.4.1. The BCE will provide sufficient staffing to the conservation office for accomplishment of natural resources program objectives. Minimum staffing should consist of:

2.4.1.1. Chief, Conservation Program Manager - one.

2.4.1.2. Natural/Cultural Resources Manager - one.

2.4.1.3. Fish and Wildlife Biologist - one.

2.4.1.4. Natural Resources Technician - one.

2.4.1.5. BASH Biologist - one.

2.4.1.6. MCA noncommissioned officer in charge (NCOIC) - one.

2.4.2. MCA and natural resources volunteers (NRV): Programs will be established and maintained to assist the permanently assigned staff in implementing the natural resources program and monitoring use of natural resource areas. Management of the MCA program is the responsibility of the conservation office, as specified in operating instructions issued by MCA NCOIC. Applications for volunteering for either program are available at the Base Wildlife Museum. Criteria for acceptance into the MCA or NRV programs will be briefed upon initiation of the application process.

2.4.2.1. MCAs will provide a minimum of 72 hours per year of off-duty time towards the accomplishment of activities designated by the conservation office. These activities will include patrols of the installation to monitor use of natural/cultural resources and to enforce natural/cultural resources regulations, state, and federal laws.

2.4.2.2. NRVs will provide a minimum of 48 hours per year of volunteer time to perform natural resource field work and special projects.

2.4.2.3. All MCAs and NRVs will be trained by the conservation office staff on requirements of the different activities and project areas.

2.4.2.3.1. MCAs are designated by the 3rd Wing Commander to enforce all applicable Natural Resource laws (including regulations) on Elmendorf AFB in accordance with 16 United States Code (U.S.C.) 670a (b)(1)(h).

2.4.2.3.2. The MCA NNCOIC will ensure all MCAs are trained based on a plan approved by the Chief, Conservation Planning.

2.4.2.4. Participation in these programs will be acknowledged through the presentation of letters of appreciation and plaques to individuals according to their level of participation.

2.5. Installation Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP):

2.5.1. The INRMP will serve as the natural resources component of the base comprehensive plan (BCP) and will cover management of the following programs:

2.5.1.1. Wetlands, Floodplains, Coastal Zone Management.

2.5.1.2. Fish and Wildlife Management.

2.5.1.3. Forest Health Management.

2.5.1.4. Outdoor Recreation Management.

2.5.1.5. Land Management.

2.5.2. A grazing and cropland management program is not required due to the lack of resource capabilities and no demand..

2.6. Cooperative Agreements:

2.6.1. Cooperation with state and federal agencies will be handled through the execution of cooperative agreements. The conservation office will prepare cooperative agreements with appropriate federal and state agencies in the areas of fish and wildlife management, forestry, cultural resources, outdoor recreation management, law enforcement, and land jurisdiction.

2.6.2. Agreements covering natural resources programs will be reviewed annually.

2.7. Access to Resources:

2.7.1. First priority is given to active-duty and retired military personnel, DoD civilian employees, and dependents.

2.7.2. Second priority is given to non-DoD civilians. The installation commander may open or restrict access to the installation for non-DoD civilians, based on the commander's discretion. At a minimum, the installation commander will consider base security and the planned use of natural resources when making a decision.

3. Wetlands and Floodplains:

3.1. Objectives. Elmendorf AFB will conduct an active program to protect, conserve, and manage wetland, floodplain and coastal zone resources. The program will fully comply with all state and federal regulatory requirements. This will be accomplished through the following objectives:

3.1.1. Minimize the location of projects and activities in wetlands and 100-year floodplains.

3.1.2. Minimize bank erosion along the shores of lakes and streams.

3.1.3. Identify and minimize point and non-point pollution sources which may impact lakes and streams.

3.1.4. Make coastal zone consistency determinations on all projects which impact the identified coastal zone areas on Elmendorf AFB.

3.2. Responsibilities. Wetland, floodplain, and coastal zone evaluations will be accomplished by 3 SPTG/CEVN during the environmental assessment process.

3.2.1. The most current maps will be used to determine the presence of wetlands, floodplains, and coastal zone resources in proposed project areas.

3.2.2. Coordination with the Corps of Engineers and the Alaska Department of Intergovernmental Coordination will be accomplished prior to the initiation of any projects which impact wetlands, floodplains, or the coastal zone. The appropriate permits or waivers will be obtained and made part of the project file.

3.2.3. When activities take place in wetland or floodplain areas, silt curtains will be used to limit the movement of silt generated by construction or repair work.

3.3. Wetland Survey and Delineation. Field delineations will be made every 10 year to upgrade the wetlands and floodplains maps.

4. Fish and Wildlife Management:

4.1. Objectives. Elmendorf AFB will conduct an active and progressive program for the protection, conservation, and management of fish and wildlife resources. The program will work to accomplish the following objectives:

4.1.1. Within mission constraints and safety considerations, maintain or increase the diversity of wildlife populations on the installation through habitat management.

4.1.1.1. Protected and conserve federally-listed and proposed threatened and endangered plants, animals, and their habitat, and where possible, state listed endangered or rare species.

4.1.1.2. Other species will be managed within habitat constraints of the threatened and endangered species after consultation with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G).

4.1.2. Manage wildlife populations to minimize undesirable or “nuisance” effects of wildlife, to include but not limited to Canada geese, cliff swallows, beavers, bear, and moose.

4.1.3. Maintain or improve opportunities for consumptive and non-consumptive uses of wildlife resources.

4.1.4. Increase the awareness and cooperation of base personnel in the fish and wildlife management program.

4.2. Responsibilities:

4.2.1. The Conservation Office:

4.2.1.1. Responsible to the BCE for the development and implementation of plans and regulations concerning the conservation of fish and wildlife resources.

4.2.1.2. Is responsible for animal control of wildlife species and dispatch or treatment of injured wildlife. They will also provide supplemental enforcement of natural resources and state fish and wildlife regulations and statues.

4.2.2. The Operations Branch within 3 SFS will assist if available, the conservation office in herding bears and moose away from areas where they present an immediate danger to life and property. MCAs monitor use of natural/cultural resources and enforce natural/cultural resource regulations, state, and federal laws.

4.3. Fish and Wildlife Management Plan. A plan covering all aspects of fish and wildlife management on Elmendorf AFB will be prepared and maintained as a component of the BCP in accordance with Air Force requirements.

4.4. Fishery Management. Lakes and streams will be managed to maintain natural populations, ecosystems, and secondarily produce an optimum number fish of all sizes for the recreational enjoyment of base personnel.

4.4.1. Land-Locked Salmonids. King and silver salmon will be stocked in land-locked lakes, in accordance with MOA FB5000-98155-726.

4.4.2. Pacific Salmon Species. Salmon populations will be cooperatively managed with the ADF&G through habitat manipulation.

4.4.3. Fishing Regulations. The laws of the State of Alaska and pertinent federal laws govern all fishing activities on base. The conservation office may impose additional restrictions but will not allow regulations more lenient than state requirements.

4.4.3.1. All individuals 16 years of age or older are required to have a valid Alaska fishing license in their possession while fishing on base.

4.4.3.2. All individuals fishing in base lakes and streams must obtain a base 3 WG Form 35,

EAFB Outdoor Recreation Permit, one copy, from the Conservation office (Building 4-803). Permits will be valid for the calendar year in which received, and must be renewed annually after 1 January. These permits will be issued by the Natural Resources office to all people possessing a valid Alaska fishing license who fish on Elmendorf AFB. Each individual will be issued one copy that must be in their possession while fishing on base. This program will be implemented 1 January 1999.

4.4.3.3. Six-Mile Creek, from Lower Six-Mile Lake to its mouth, is closed to all fishing. Fishing is authorized in the tidal portion of the mouth as posted by the conservation office and ADF&G.

4.4.3.4. Ship Creek is open to trout fishing all year. The creek is closed to fishing from the bridge pilings on the south runway approach downstream to the west boundary of the installation (Reeve Boulevard).

4.4.3.5. Fish, Green, Hillberg, Lower and Upper Six-Mile, Spring and Triangle Lakes are the only lakes open to fishing.

4.4.3.6. No species of Pacific salmon 16 inches and larger which migrate from the ocean to base waters may be caught and retained. Any such salmon accidentally caught must be released immediately. Exception being to the tidal portion of Six-Mile creek as in paragraph 4.4.3.4, this instruction.

4.4.3.7. All waters not specifically mentioned in this instruction are closed to fishing.

4.5. Wildlife Management. Mammal and birds will be managed primarily for ecosystem considerations, nonconsumptive, and recreational use.

4.5.1. Mammals. The featured species in this category will be moose and black bears. Management efforts will be directed toward maintaining healthy populations through habitat manipulation.

4.5.1.1. Habitat improvements will be accomplished separately or as part of the vegetation management program.

4.5.1.2. In-stream habitat work will not be performed without prior consultation and approval from the ADF&G, Habitat Division, and 3 CES/CEVN.

4.5.1.3. Where possible, habitat work will be designed to benefit more than one species.

4.5.2. Birds:

4.5.2.1. The highlighted species in this category will be Loons and Bald Eagles, which are sensitive to human disturbance. Management efforts will be directed at protecting and improving nesting habitat. Wetlands will be preserved and protected.

4.5.2.2. Non-mission activities which are detrimental to successful breeding will be prohibited in the vicinity of known nesting sites for Loons and Bald Eagles.

4.5.2.3. Habitat of species hazardous to aircraft will be managed to minimize the bird aircraft strike hazard (BASH), see 3 WG Oplan 91-203 for further details. This will require planting of vegetation along the flightline which will discourage use of these area by Canada geese, gulls, and swallows.

4.5.3. Wildlife Harassment. Base personnel will in no way harass wildlife or encourage them to develop “nuisance” behavior. Only conservation staff, MCAs, BASH, and SFS personnel are authorized to harass wildlife from housing areas.

4.5.3.1. Wildlife will be given the right-of-way.

4.5.3.2. No objects will be thrown at wildlife except by conservation agents or security police during the performance of control procedures.

4.5.3.3. No wild animal may be kept as a pet, except as permitted by the ADF&G and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USF&WS).

4.5.3.4. Feeding wildlife is strictly prohibited including migratory waterfowl, with the exception of birdfeeders designed for songbirds.

4.5.3.5. Trash containers will not be allowed to overflow and act as bear attractants. In areas where bears have been a problem, ammonia may be applied to the containers as a repellent. Dumpsters in these areas will have some sort of latching device installed which will prevent bears from opening the doors. Building custodians are responsible for ensuring that garbage cans are emptied and all garbage removed or deposited in bear proof dumpsters.

4.5.4. Hunting Regulations. Currently, no small game hunting is allowed on Elmendorf AFB. Any changes to this will be published in Alaska Hunting Regulations and permission of the installation commander.

4.5.4.1. Alaska hunting laws will be enforced on the installation.

4.5.4.2. An archery moose hunt will be conducted in cooperation with the ADF&G as part of the state's annual permit drawings. Permits, seasons, and bag limits will be determined by ADF&G.

4.5.4.3. Archery/muzzleloader hunts for black bear may be conducted in cooperation with ADF&G, as required, with seasons and number of permits to be determined jointly. This hunt is intended to control population growth and alleviate nuisance bear complaints.

4.5.4.4. Hunts for small game may be authorized as permitted by population numbers and safety considerations. The conservation office will designate hunting areas, set bag limits, and harvest methods in cooperation with the ADF&G.

4.5.4.5. Permits for hunting, fishing, and trapping will be issued by the conservation office on 3 WG Form 35.

4.5.5. Trapping Regulations. General trapping on Elmendorf AFB is closed. Any future trapping seasons will be announced in the Alaska Trapping Regulation with the permission of the installation commander.

4.5.5.1. Alaska trapping laws regarding methods and seasons will be enforced on the installation.

4.5.5.2. Trapping is by permit only.

4.5.5.3. Species, harvest limits, and areas open to trapping will be determined by the conservation office in cooperation with the ADF&G.

4.5.6. Wildlife Damage Control:

4.5.6.1. Control efforts will be accomplished in cooperation with the ADF&G and the USF&WS. The conservation office will obtain a permit from the USF&WS for the possession and control of wildlife species on Elmendorf AFB.

4.5.6.2. Every effort will be made to avoid human/animal conflicts by providing adequate habitat for wildlife which will fully meet their needs.

4.5.6.3. Injured wildlife will be destroyed if it is determined the animal will not recover from an injury. Determinations will be made by the base wildlife biologist or MCA NCOIC.

4.5.6.4. MCAs and/or law enforcement patrols, if available, will respond to reports of moose, bears, and other potentially dangerous wildlife in developed areas of the base. If response time is 15 minutes or more, the conservation office will request law enforcement to respond until conservation units arrive.

4.5.6.4.1. Wildlife incidents will be evaluated on a case by case basis, with the conservation office staff being responsible for making the final decision.

4.5.6.4.2. Wildlife which presents an immediate danger to life and property will be herded back to undeveloped portions of the base, where possible. Other options, including trapping, darting, and relocation will be considered for use. Animals which exhibit repeated aggressive tendencies or which present a threat to people will be relocated or destroyed.

4.5.6.4.3. MCAs and law enforcement personnel are authorized to destroy animals in defense of life. In accordance with state law, the meat or skin/skull of these animals will be salvaged. Bear skulls and hides will be turned in to the state.

4.5.6.4.4. The conservation office will maintain wildlife control and dispersal equipment and supplies in sufficient quantities to perform year-round control operations. New techniques and equipment will be identified and evaluated for use.

4.6. Exotic Species. Indigenous game and non-game species will be favored over exotic species.

4.6.1. No species of fish or wildlife foreign to the base will be introduced, unless approved by the USF&W and ADF&G.

4.6.2. Possession of exotic pets will be in accordance with pertinent state and federal regulations. Pets will not be released into the local environment.

4.7. Fish and Wildlife Education. The conservation office will conduct a quality wildlife education program for base personnel.

4.7.1. The conservation office, Building 4-803, will be the centerpiece for wildlife education on base. Displays of local wildlife will be maintained and augmented with new mounts as they are available.

4.7.1.1. Tours of the wildlife displays will be conducted upon request. Conservation agents will be made available to make wildlife presentations at base and community schools upon request.

4.7.1.2. The conservation office will serve as a clearing house for fishing and hunting information, to include copies of base, federal, and state regulations.

4.7.2. The Sourdough Sentinel and the Daily Bulletin will be used to inform base personnel about wildlife and natural resources programs and to gain their involvement in these programs. The Daily Bulletin will be used to announce changes to normal operating procedures.

4.7.3. An introduction to Alaskan wildlife and natural resources will be made available at the monthly newcomers briefing.

4.8. Inter-Agency Coordination:

4.8.1. A formal cooperative agreement with the USF& WS and the AKDF& G will be maintained for the cooperative management of fish and wildlife resources on Elmendorf AFB.

4.8.2. The conservation office will obtain permits from state and federal agencies for the salvage, receipt and possession of migratory waterfowl.

5. Vegetation Management:

5.1. Objectives:

5.1.1. Forest lands will be managed with the principles of integrated natural resources and ecosystem management. Primary objective will be to manage forest lands with the objectives of maintaining and improving wildlife habitat, biodiversity, and forest health.

5.1.2. Secondary objectives will be to:

5.1.2.1. Improve the visual quality of recreation areas.

5.1.2.2. Conduct a sales program to dispose of forest products made available as the result of management activities. Due to the condition of existing forest stands and the nature of other demands placed on forest lands, maximization of timber production will not be the primary objective of vegetation management on Elmendorf AFB.

5.2. Responsibilities:

5.2.1. The conservation office, within environmental management, is responsible to the BCE for the development and implementation of all plans and regulations concerning the vegetation management program.

5.2.2. The Base Contracting Officer is responsible for the execution and administration of all commercial timber sales and service/supply contracts supporting the vegetation management program.

5.3. Vegetation Management Plan. A plan covering all aspects of vegetation management on Elmendorf AFB will be prepared and maintained as a component of the BCP in accordance with Air Force requirements.

5.4. Accepted Management Practices. The objectives of the vegetation management program will be met through the application of sound science currently accepted by other agencies and the USDA Forest Service. Selection of a particular practice will be determined by management and mission requirements.

5.5. Forest Protection. ecosystems will be protected from the damaging effects of insect and disease attacks as well as fire. MCAs will provide enforcement in the misuse of Elmendorf's forest stands.

5.5.1. Disease and Insect Control:

5.5.1.1. Control will be accomplished through the application of ecosystem management practices which will keep vegetation in a healthy, vigorous condition.

5.5.1.2. If economically feasible, management efforts will focus on restoration of ecosystem health when conditions warrant.

5.5.1.3. Insecticides will not be used as control agents, except when high value trees exist, such as in residential or recreational areas.

5.5.2. Fire Control:

5.5.2.1. The base fire department will respond to and suppress all wildfires on Elmendorf AFB. Should the initial response fail to contain the fire, augmentees will be called up in accordance with the Civil Engineering Recovery Plan.

5.5.2.2. Civil Engineer heavy equipment will be made available for fire fighting, as required.

5.6. Construction and Maintenance of Forest Access Roads. To the extent possible, existing roads will be used for managing base natural resources. Should additional roads be required, the following restrictions will apply:

5.6.1. Design standards will generally be the minimum level needed.

5.6.2. Roads constructed as a result of management activities may be closed, gated, and rehabilitated, depending on conservation needs.

5.7. Green Belts. The area within 300 feet of all base lakes, ponds and streams will be managed as buffer areas where minimal management occurs. Ecosystem restoration is allowed.

5.7.1. Clear cuts are not authorized in green belt lands where the forest is in general good health. Selective cuts with artificial seeding or hand planting will be used as required to maintain the forest stands in these areas.

5.7.2. Exceptions to the green belt policy may be granted for the development of recreation areas, road construction, or for other mission requirements.

5.8. Forest Products Sales. Forest products will be sold by means of personal-use or commercial timber sales. The Natural Resource Manager will establish the cost for timber sales based on prices received by the Alaska Division of Forestry for similar products. It's value is based on prices received by the Alaska Division of Forestry for similar products. Wood removed from the installation without proper authorization will be treated as stolen property, with the responsible individuals subject to prosecution.

5.8.1. Personal-Use Sales. Products may be sold for personal use are Christmas trees, firewood, and house logs in the absence of commercial markets.

5.8.1.1. The base conservation office will be responsible for all personal use sales.

5.8.1.2. In conjunction with each sale, a 3WG Form 22, *Wood Cutting Permit*, one copy will be issued by the Natural Resources Office (Building 4-803). This permit expires 30 days from day of issue and must be produced on location when asked by a MCA. These permits are issued to any person with a valid Department of Defense identification card..

5.8.1.3. Proceeds from sales will be adequately safeguarded and turned into the Accounting and Finance Office on DD Form 1131, *Case Collection Voucher*. Deposits will be made

weekly, when receipts accumulate beyond \$1,000, or in accordance with base regulations. Serial numbers of all permits will be entered on the DD Form 1131 to document sales transactions.

5.8.1.4. Wood will be cut from designated areas only. Taking wood from an unauthorized area is expressly prohibited and will be strictly enforced.

5.8.1.5. Wood obtained for personal use may not be resold.

5.8.1.6. Details of the personal use program will be publicized in the Base Daily Bulletin and the Sourdough Sentinel.

5.8.2. Commercial Sales. The only products which may be sold for commercial use are firewood and saw logs.

5.8.2.1. The base conservation office will initiate all commercial timber sales in accordance with the requirements of AFI 32-7064.

5.8.2.2. Sales will not exceed one 1 year from date of award to date of completion.

5.8.2.3. The Natural Resources Manager will act as contract compliance officers for all commercial sales.

5.9. Inter-Agency Coordination. A formal cooperative agreement with the USDA. Forest Service, Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry, and Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management will be negotiated for the management of forest lands on Elmendorf AFB. A meeting of the agencies involved will be held once a year to review the agreement and evaluate progress on implementing the management plan.

6. Outdoor Recreation Management:

6.1. Objectives. Elmendorf AFB will implement and maintain a quality outdoor recreation management program for the benefit of base personnel, within constraints of the mission and the capabilities of the resources. The following are the major objectives of this program:

6.1.1. Provide base personnel with the greatest possible number of outdoor recreation opportunities using base natural resources.

6.1.2. Maintain and develop areas suitable for year-round intensive and extensive recreational use.

6.1.3. Protect, conserve, and enhance existing recreational resources.

6.1.4. Identify historical and cultural resources which are significant to Elmendorf AFB or the Southcentral Region of Alaska through interpretive signs and displays at the Base Wildlife Museum. Complete surveys, as directed by the National Historic Preservation Act. Conduct all coordination. Establish government to government coordination with native tribes. Complete and update the Integrated Cultural Resource Plan (in accordance with AFI 32-7065). Conduct formal inventories of all culturally and historically significant structures and sites.

6.2. Responsibilities:

6.2.1. The BCE is responsible for developing and maintaining the recreation resources on base. The conservation office within environmental management will develop and implement the outdoor recreation management program, and coordinate the program with 3 SVS.

6.2.2. The 3 SVS/CC is responsible for operating and managing the various recreational facilities; specifically, playgrounds, ball fields, golf courses, ski facilities, lodges, marinas, and similar urban recreational facilities. The 3 SVS will coordinate with the BCE to ensure recreational facility developments in natural resource areas are in compliance with the outdoor recreation management program.

6.3. Management Plans. A plan covering all aspects of outdoor recreation resources management on Elmendorf AFB will be prepared every 5 years and maintained as a component of the BCP in accordance with Air Force requirements.

6.4. Outdoor Recreation Permits:

6.4.1. An Outdoor Recreation Permit, 3 WG Form 35, will be issued by the conservation office for the following activities in natural resources areas:

6.4.1.1. Use of off-road vehicles (ORV), to include all-terrain vehicles (ATV) and snowmachines of all types. A liability waiver/indemnity agreement for ORVs use will be required for any non-duty user. The liability waiver/indemnity agreement will be available for signature at the time of permit use.

6.4.1.2. Performance of boat engine maintenance run checks on Six-Mile Lake.

6.4.1.3. Camping at designated sites by individuals and groups.

6.4.1.4. Use of dog sleds.

6.4.2. In accordance with AFI 32-7064, the conservation office may charge a fee for issuance of permits for hunting, fishing, trapping, woodcutting, and outdoor recreation on lands controlled by Elmendorf AFB.

6.4.3. Permits will be good for the period indicated on the permit. Permits expire at different dates, depending on the type issued. This will be explained at its issuance.

6.5. Base Trail System. Trails will be developed and maintained for year-round recreational use.

6.5.1. ORV Use. The regulations governing the use of ORVs on base will be published in WI 31-203, *Base Traffic Code*. Use of snowmachines and ATVs is permitted on the installation, but individuals must attend a safety orientation class and obtain a Outdoor Recreation Permit prior to operating machines on base.

6.5.1.1. ORVs are authorized on designated trails and locations only. For further details on base snowmachine traffic laws refer to WI 31-203.

6.5.1.2. Violations of operating rules may result in the loss of the operating permit and loss of ORV use privileges on the installation for one year. Operators who lose ORV operating privileges will not be allowed to keep their ORV at their on-base quarters, but will be required to store them off-base at the Recreational Vehicles Storage Lot.

6.5.2. Hiking-Cross Country Skiing. All trails not designated exclusively for other uses will be open to hiking during summer and skiing in winter.

6.5.3. Dog mushing and horseback riding are authorized on marked trails only. Dog mushing is restricted to marked hiking and ski trails only. An Outdoor Recreation Permit is required for dog sled mushing.

6.5.4. Berry picking is authorized on base. However, no permit is required.

6.5.5. Specific Prohibitions for Trail Use:

6.5.5.1. Users must stay on marked trails only.

6.5.5.2. Motorized vehicles are prohibited from driving off any posted or regularly maintained road surface, except as specifically authorized by the conservation office.

6.5.5.3. Littering is prohibited. All trash will be packed out and deposited in the trash containers at the trailheads.

6.6. Water Sports and Activities. In addition to fishing, base lakes are open to boating and swimming.

6.6.1. Boating. Both motorized and non-motorized boating is permitted.

6.6.1.1. Gas-powered motors are permitted only on Lower Six-Mile Lake. Boat motors will not exceed 10 hp.

6.6.1.2. Larger motors may be operated for maintenance checks on the west end of Lower Six Mile Lake only between the road and the floatplane landing zone. Engines may be operated with the boat launched or while on a trailer. Maintenance checks will be performed only after obtaining a Outdoor Recreation Permit from the conservation office.

6.6.1.3. Boating on Lower Six Mile Lake is restricted to the area of the lake outside of the designated floatplane landing zone, as marked by buoys. The area between the landing zone and the floatplane docks also is off limits to boating.

6.6.2. Non-motorized boating is permitted on Fish, Green, Hillberg, Lower and Upper Six-Mile, Spring and Triangle Lakes.

6.6.2.1. Electric trolling motors may be used on lakes open to boating.

6.6.3. Safety Restrictions. Boating will be performed safely at all times following these rules:

6.6.3.1. Boats and boaters must satisfy U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) safety and boating requirements (U.S.C.G., phone, 271-5137).

6.6.3.2. Personal flotation devices will be worn by boaters at all times.

6.6.3.3. Be considerate of individuals who are fishing, and watch for other boating traffic on the water.

6.6.4. Swimming. Green, Hillberg, Lower Six-Mile and Triangle Lakes will be open to swimming. All other waters will be closed. The following rules will apply:

6.6.4.1. Swimming will be at the individual's own risk, as no lifeguards will be posted at the lakes.

6.6.4.2. Parents are responsible for their dependents.

6.6.4.3. Children younger than 16 years of age will not swim without adult supervision.

6.6.4.4. No individual is permitted to swim alone. The "buddy system" will be used at all times.

6.6.5. Other Water Activities. Those activities not specifically addressed are prohibited.

6.7. Picnicking. Picnicking facilities will be constructed and maintained at the access points to base lakes which are open to fishing and along Ship Creek, as appropriate. Additional facilities will be constructed, as needed, within funding limitations. All plans will be reviewed by 3 SPTG/ CEVP. The following rules apply to the use of picnic areas:

6.7.1. Use will be on a first-come first-served basis for all size of user groups

6.7.2. Fires are allowed only in established barbecue pits and fire rings. User construction of new fire pits is prohibited.

6.7.3. Vehicles must be parked in designated areas only. Parking on grassed areas is prohibited.

6.7.4. Pets must be leashed.

6.7.5. Camping in picnic areas is prohibited.

6.7.6. Littering is prohibited. All trash and food should be deposited in the dumpsters and cans provided.

6.8. Camping:

6.8.1. Overnight camping is not permitted on Elmendorf AFB, except in established campgrounds. All campers must possess a Elmendorf AFB Outdoor Recreation Permit.

6.8.2. Camping permits for non-profit organizations will be evaluated based on the availability of the resources and impact on the mission.

6.8.3. Mission training activities may camp in areas designated by the BCE.

6.9. Inter-Agency Coordination. A formal cooperative agreement with the National Park Service and the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks will be renegotiated every 10 years. A meeting of the agencies involved will be held once a year to review the agreement and evaluate progress on implementing the management plan.

7. Land Management:

7.1. Objectives. Elmendorf AFB lands will be managed in such a way as to protect and conserve water and soil resources, and maintain an aggressive landscape development program within mission constraints.

7.2. Responsibilities:

7.2.1. Base housing residents are responsible for the care and improvement of lawns in their assigned areas.

7.2.2. Units and organizations are responsible for their assigned areas around buildings and facilities.

7.2.3. All other land areas are the responsibility of the BCE.

7.2.3.1. The conservation office within the environmental management flight will prepare the Land Management Plan and conduct land management activities on unimproved lands.

7.2.3.2. The Pavement and Grounds Sections within the Operations Flight will provide input to the Land Management Plan and conduct land management activities on improved and semi-improved lands.

7.3. Land Management Plan. A plan will be prepared in accordance with Air Force policy which will cover all aspects of land management on Elmendorf AFB. This plan will be maintained as a segment of the BCP and will be reviewed annually.

7.4. Landscape Development:

7.4.1. Improved and semi-improved grounds will be planted and maintained with a grass cover where mission requirements allow.

7.4.2. The BCE will maintain an inspection and incentive program to monitor compliance with lawn care directives.

7.4.3. Ornamental plantings of trees and shrubs will be accomplished in accordance with the Landscape Development Plan as directed by the Base Beautification Working Group, using locally adapted species.

7.4.3.1. Landscaping requests will be made on AF Form 332 through Family Housing for quarters occupants and Customer Service for units and organizations.

7.4.3.2. Nursery plants and shrubs will be made available by Civil Engineering as funds are available.

7.4.3.3. Local tree species will be made available from designated borrow areas on base.

7.4.4. Unimproved grounds will be maintained in forest cover through the use of appropriate forest management practices.

7.5. Grounds Maintenance. Landscaped areas will be maintained in accordance with the specifications contained in the Base Landscape Development Plan, and pertinent regulations and directives from Family Housing.

7.6. Soil and Water Conservation. The following restrictions apply to the protection of soil and water resources:

7.6.1. No soil disturbances deeper than two and one half inches will take place without an AF Form 103, *Digging Permit*, from Civil Engineering Customer Service.

7.6.2. Streams and lakes will be kept free of all debris, litter or encroachment of woody vegetation growth which adversely impacts the aquatic ecosystem. Stream bank vegetation will be maintained to stabilize stream banks and prevent erosion.

7.6.3. Disturbance of stream beds and lake banks is prohibited, except to improve fish habitat or to perform such work required to stabilize stream banks for erosion control.

7.6.4. Discharging solid or liquid wastes into any wetland, stream or lake is prohibited.

7.6.5. Channeling, discharging ,or diverting surface drainage into any stream, lake or wetland is prohibited, except as authorized by Corps of Engineer permit.

7.6.6. Septic tank drain fields must be located so as to prevent leaching into streams, lakes, and wetlands.

7.7. Inter-Agency Coordination. A formal cooperative agreement with state and federal agencies is not required in regard to land management. However, the following agencies will be consulted as required in the management of natural resources, as applicable.

7.7.1. State of Alaska:

7.7.1.1. Department of Natural Resources.

7.7.1.2. Department of Environmental Conservation.

7.7.2. Federal Government:

7.7.2.1. Army Corps of Engineers.

7.7.2.2. Environmental Protection Agency.

7.7.2.3. Natural Resources Conservation Service.

7.7.2.4. National Park Service.

7.7.2.5. Wildlife Services-USDA.

8. Forms Prescribed. 3WG Form 25, *EAFB Wood Cutting Permit*, and 3 WG Form 35, *EAFB Outdoor Recreation Permit*.

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